

### Magistrate assassinated south of Algiers

ALGIERS (AFP) — Another Algerian magistrate has been killed, this time in the town of Bousaada, southeast of Algiers, the magistrates' national union announced Wednesday. The organisation did not provide any details on the circumstances surrounding Seikh Bouali's killing on June 12. He was the 19th magistrate killed in Algeria in two years in attacks attributed to suspected Islamic extremists. Bousaada lies 250 kilometres southeast of the capital. Since April five lawyers have also been killed in the country including Youssef Farhah, the president of the Algerian Human Rights League who was assassinated in his office last Saturday. Islamic extremists have waged a terrorist campaign here since January 1992 when the army intervened to cancel the second round of a general election the now banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was poised to win.

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## King, U.S. president share hope for comprehensive peace

### Clinton: U.S. looking at Jordan's security and economic needs

WASHINGTON (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and U.S. President Bill Clinton Wednesday held two hours of talks at the White House that centred on bilateral relations, progress in the Middle East peace process in general and along the Jordanian-Israeli track in particular as well as other regional issues, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

During a brief encounter with journalists at the White House the King said he shared with President Clinton the "hope that we will have a comprehensive peace in the entire region."

Asked whether Jordan is seeking a separate peace with Israel, the King said that Jordan was "seeking the beginning of serious negotiations on the agenda that was ratified here in Washington (on Sept. 14, 1993) as rapidly as possible."

President Clinton pledged support for Jordan and said that his country would be looking at Jordan's security and economic needs.

Mr. Clinton urged the Jordanian people to lend support to King Hussein's effort to negotiate peace with Israel because the King is "clearly... working to protect the long-term interests of the people of

Jordan."

The president reaffirmed the support of the United States for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, including the Syrian track."

He said the U.S. "will do whatever (it) can to keep the negotiations going."

"This remains a very important priority for me and for our administration, and I am very encouraged by where we are now in the whole process, and especially by the efforts that King Hussein has made."

"The United States will support the cause of peace not just in the aftermath of the peace agreement, but on the long run. We believe that our efforts are very much bound with the success of Jordan and Israel and Syria and Lebanon and all the other parties in the Middle East. We think this is a very important part of our future," the president said.

Commenting on remarks by a number of congressmen that the Arab boycott of Israel adversely affected Jordanian-American relations, King Hussein said that an end to the boycott depended on the outcome of the peace process and the Israeli ban on Jordanian products entering the Palestinian areas.

He said Israel should re-

examine its own economic system which is largely based on protectionism and subsidising exports because these measures prevent any open trade between the Arabs and the Israelis.

In reply to questions about Islamic fundamentalism the King said that extremism can be seen in other religions too but Islam is a religion of moderation and the West should not judge our religion from the perspective of extremism.

The King expressed pride in being a Muslim himself.

Referring to relations with the Palestinians, the King said Jordan was providing assistance to them to enable them to run their own affairs.

Following the meeting Information Minister Jawad Anani said it was held in a very cordial atmosphere reflecting the positive trend in the development of Jordanian-American relations.

The King is accompanied by a delegation that includes Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's military secretary, His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad and Jordan's ambassador to the United States Dr. Fayed.

Tarawneh. During the meeting with President Clinton, Vice President Albert Gore, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Robert Pelletreau, National Security Advisor Martin Indyk and Middle East coordinator Denis Ross from the American side attended.

King Hussein stressed that Jordan sought peace based on the common agenda reached with Israel and the recent agreement on sub-agendas on the demarcation of the common border and the settlement of issues related to security and water rights.

The congressmen enquired about the proposed confederation between Jordan and Palestine and the King said that this was not being considered at the moment.

Once the Palestinians have regained their rights on their national soil they can decide for themselves their future relations with Jordan, the King said.

Referring to the democratic process in Jordan the King said that it was needed to safeguard man's dignity and basic requirements adding that democracy should prevail in all parts of the Middle East region.

Referring to coordination with the Arab parties the King said that Jordan had never sought a separate solution stressing that peace depended on a favourable Israeli response to the Kingdom's requirements.

After the talks, the King and Her Majesty Queen

Noor were guests of honour at a lunch hosted by the U.S. president and first lady Hillary Clinton at the White House.

Earlier the King met with Thomas Foley, speaker of the House of Representatives, Lee Hamilton, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee at the

House, and 23 house members and discussed with them the Middle East peace process and Jordanian-American relations.

Petra quoted congressmen as saying that they understand the problems facing Jordan and that lended support for Jordan in view of its positive stand with regard to the Middle East peace process and its drive for democratisation.

## Koreans meet next week to discuss summit agenda

SEOUL, South Korea (Agencies) — In a step towards defusing nuclear tensions, North Korea on Wednesday accepted a South Korean proposal to meet next week to prepare for their first summit.

North Korea said it would send officials to the border village of Panmunjom for the talks Tuesday, but South Korean officials expressed skepticism. Past summit proposals have failed to materialise.

South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-Joo said the summit, if held, would focus on suspicions that the north is developing nuclear weapons.

North Korea has refused to accept full inspections of its nuclear facilities as required by the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. The secretive, hard-line state says its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes.

In a telephone message Wednesday, North Korea agreed to send a three-member delegation to Panmunjom, said officials from the Unification Board, which deals with inter-Korean issues.

Last week, North Korean President Kim Il Sung told former U.S. President Carter, on a visit to both Koreas to try to reduce tensions, that he was willing to meet South Korean President Kim Young-Sam.

South Korea suggested Monday that officials from the two countries meet to prepare for a summit.

Mr. Han called Wednesday's message from North Korea "encouraging" because for the first time it did not make a counter-offer with a different place or date for a meeting.

Presidents of the two Koreas have not met since the division of their peninsula in 1945. Lower-level talks have been held on and off since the 1970s to little avail.

The north and south are still technically at war since no peace treaty was signed at the end of the three-year Korean war in 1953.

According to news reports, North Korea has said it hopes to hold the summit in its capital Aug. 15, which both Koreas celebrate as the

anniversary of liberation in 1945 from 35 years of Japanese domination.

But the date may be difficult for South Korea to accept because the north also plans to hold a rally which Seoul officials say is anti-South Korean.

A poll published Wednesday said 76 per cent of South Koreans believe North Korea is proposing summit talks to avoid international sanctions designed to force it to allow nuclear inspections. But those questioned nevertheless believe a summit could help ease tensions.

Mr. Han, the foreign minister, warned that moves for sanctions would continue if North Korea does not make good on its offers.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Tuesday Washington would suspend its push for sanctions and resume high-level talks with North Korea if Pyongyang confirms its willingness to freeze its nuclear programme.

"We hope that this meeting will be held soon and can gain positive results," said a foreign ministry spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, a Japanese travel agency said Wednesday that North Korea has decided to lift a ban on issuing visas to Japanese tourists. North Korea stopped issuing the visas a year ago in response to mounting tension over nuclear inspections.

President Kang Ok Joo of Chegai Travel Co. in Tokyo said a state-run tourist corporation in Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, notified him of the decision in mid-May.

Also Wednesday, South Korea's largest militant student group, ignoring a government warning, said it would send a representative to North Korea in a few days to promote unification.

Police said any student leaders involved would be punished. The government launched a severe crackdown in 1989 after a student delegate went to North Korea.

South Koreans cannot visit North Korea without government

approval, which is rarely given.

Unification Minister Lee Hong-Koo, who is widely expected to become the chief southern delegate to the preparatory talks, told reporters on Monday the meeting would decide a venue and date for the summit without setting an agenda.

"We will be very flexible on the issue of agenda for the summit to put the preparatory talks on a fast track," a ministry official said on Wednesday.

The United States, Seoul and their allies have threatened North Korea with sanctions for obstructing inspections of its nuclear plants. North Korea has responded by saying sanctions would mean war.

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South Koreans cannot visit North Korea without government

## Arafat delays return till mid-July

JERICHO, West Bank (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat, originally expected here by the end of June will not be coming before the middle of next month, a senior Palestinian official said Wednesday.

Colonel Jitri Rajuh, head of preventive security in the new Palestinian self-rule enclave of Jericho, said "Arafat is not expected before mid-July."

"International donors are late in sending us the aid to start building our infrastructure," Col. Rajuh told AFP, citing the major reason for the delay.

International donors have pledged to pay immediately \$42 million to help start up Palestinian autonomy. The sum was to be followed by \$90 million, part of a total of \$720 million for the rest of the year.

Col. Rajuh also said political factors such as the Palestinian prisoners and Israeli security arrangements at checkpoints contributed to the delay.

Israeli soldiers on Monday stopped chief Palestinian negotiator Nabil Shaath at checkpoints twice during a visit to Jericho. He was only let through one of them after

the intervention of Israeli deputy chief of staff Amnon Shahak.

"After my visit to Jericho and what I have seen there of Israeli violations, there is a chance that Arafat will delay his arrival," Dr. Shahak told Al Quds newspaper.

"I would not want him to see what I have seen of military barriers and of obstacles to tourism. We must first solve these problems."

Palestinians complain that Israel is violating the autonomy agreement by keeping tourist buses out of Jericho, which has a wealth of historic ruins and monasteries. They also say Israeli soldiers hold them up for hours at checkpoints around Jericho.

"We have not had any buses in here for two weeks now," said Lieutenant Ibrahim Jadallah, chief of the tourism sector here.

"The soldiers at the checkpoints are not safe, and just send them back," he said.

An Israeli and Palestinian liaison committee was scheduled to meet Wednesday to discuss the border problems among other matters.

Meanwhile, preparations continued regardless in Jericho for Mr. Arafat's arrival. The delay is likely to

give workers more time to clean up the town.

"We are staying here," said Ramzy Khoury, director of the PLO chairman's office in Tunis, who arrived last month.

"We are preparing the buildings for the government, and for the President (Arafat)."

Israel Radio reported that Israeli security services are putting the final touches to a massive operation codenamed "Garden City" for Mr. Arafat's visit.

The security plan concentrates on maintaining order around the self-rule enclave of Jericho where Jewish right-wingers and settlers have amounted protests.

Israelis will be prevented from entering Jericho during the visit and roads through the surrounding Jordan Valley and the northern sector of the Dead Sea will be closed.

Some 250,000 Palestinians are expected to flock to Jericho, which has a population of only 15,000, according to PLO officials. The radio said Israeli forces would filter their entry to the oasis town.

Mr. Arafat's personal security will be maintained by his own bodyguards, some of whom have reportedly already arrived, and the new Palestinian police.

## Battles rage around Aden

ADEN, Yemen (AFP) — At least a dozen people died and more than 40 were wounded in fighting around Aden on Wednesday as rival Yemeni leaders refused to budge on their demands for a settlement.

Shells slammed into the Dar-Saada suburb, which lies north of the southern city and just 10 kilometres from the front, killing nine civilians and wounding 29, hospital officials said.

Three dead soldiers and seven wounded were taken to hospitals here from Abyan and eight more were wounded at Bir-Ahmad, the officials said.

Southern forces have been resisting a northern offensive for the past three days at these and other fronts within a 25-kilometre radius of the Dead Sea will be closed.

Katiuska rockets also hit the airport without causing damage on Wednesday as southern jets were taking off for raids on northern supply lines.

President Ali Abdallah Saleh's northern troops, and southern forces loyal to his rival Ali Salem Beidh, have been locked in a civil war for almost two months.

The shells crashed into the port area but left no casualties. Artillery duels along the front some 20 kilometres away could be heard in the city.

The systematic shelling of Aden has killed 91 people and wounded more than 300 since Thursday, according to the latest toll.

Northern troops have tried to break through Aden's defences since Sunday, but there was no perceptible change in their positions late Tuesday.

Both sides stuck hard to their positions.

The north "categorically refused" to accept the southern demand for the deployment of foreign observers to monitor a ceasefire, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Anzi, a Saleh ally, said in Qatari.

Four truces have collapsed since the U.N. Security Council on June 1 adopted a resolution calling for an immediate halt to hostilities, with each side accusing the other of firing the first shot.

Mr. Anzi ruled out the possibility of U.N. special envoy Lakhdar Ibrahim — who failed during a 10-day mission to bridge the gap on the monitoring issue — would return to the region.

Mr. Beidh meanwhile refused to go back on his May 21 declaration of a breakaway state, the Yemen Democratic Republic, saying it was "certainly better than the union that existed before."

He told tribal leaders from the southern Shabwah province he was confident the people in the south could "defend themselves, recover what was lost, and build a state of law and order."

He said the YDR should be the nucleus for any future union, but added that he would never again accept fusion under Mr. Saleh, according to an Aden radio broadcast.

President Ali Abdallah Saleh's northern troops, and southern forces loyal to his rival Ali Salem Beidh, have been locked in a civil war for almost two months.

The United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Ittihad said Egypt is seeking to promote an "Arab initiative" acceptable to Sanaa which continues to reject outside interference.

Egypt asked Mr. Ibrahim to reject the idea of sanctions against Sanaa in order to give the initiative a chance, it said.

The north's unrelenting siege on Aden prompted Gulf newspapers on Wednesday to condemn "Arab impotence" to prevent "the catastrophe" in Aden.

The Saudi newspaper Al Yom even called for openly recognising the breakaway republic in order to "put an end to the suffering" of the southerners.</p

## Rabbani's jets bomb Hekmatyar's airbase

KABUL (Agencies) — Jets of forces loyal to Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani bombed the main airbase of Prime Minister Gul-Buddin Hekmatyar on Wednesday, damaging the runway, a presidential spokesman said.

Two jets of Mr. Rabbani's forces dropped their bombs on the airport, just south of Hekmatyar's headquarters at Charsayab, 25 km southeast of Kabul, shortly after dawn, said a spokesman for Mr. Rabbani's garrison forces.

The bombs damaged the gravel runway of the airport, he said.

The raid was necessary because Hekmatyar's main ally, northern warlord and ex-communist General Abdul Rashid Dostum, was using the airport to resupply his troops from his stronghold in the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif, he said.

One jet also bombed a suburb in the southeast of the war-tattered capital near the ruined Chihilshir palace which is held by Hekmatyar's forces.

No details of casualties were available because heavy fighting near the city centre had blocked routes to the main hospitals, doctors said. Artillery battles erupted at dawn near the Darulaman palace, former home of the

kings of Afghanistan, as fighting between Hekmatyar's and guerrillas of the Shiite Muslim group Harakat-i-Islami entered its seventh day, witnesses said.

Hospitals reported six injured from the exchanges of heavy machine-guns fire rocks, mortar bombs and shells.

The fighting raged for more than six hours in the morning after a brief lull on Tuesday when the two sides held peace talks.

The clashes began last week after Harakat accused Hezbollah fighters of stealing one of their vehicles. Harakat is demanding the return of the leaders' sides.

Afghan hospital staff said they expected the casualty toll to rise much higher.

Harakat-i-Islami supports Rabbani, who has been under siege in Kabul by Mr. Hekmatyar since new year's day. More than 1,500 people have been killed and thousands injured in the fighting.

The fighting has intensified as Rabbani has refused to step down at the end of his term on June 23.

More than 11,500 people have been killed and much of the city reduced to ruins in bloody factional fighting in Kabul since the Mujahideen guerrilla groups seized power from the former Soviet-backed government in April, 1992.

More than one-third of Kabul's 1.5 million residents have fled since the guerrillas formed their Islamic coalition government.

### 50 civilians injured

More than 50 civilians were wounded in fresh clashes in south Kabul, hospital staff said Wednesday.

In the past 24 hours 51 civilians were admitted to Kabul's Karte Se Hospital after clashes between the two leaders' sides.

Afghan hospital staff said they expected the casualty toll to rise much higher.

The "preliminary peace talks" collapsed Wednesday, said sources in the Shiite faction who were to have hosted the negotiations. Special mediator Jalil Shamsi reportedly left Kabul after two failed attempts to bring the rival delegations together.

The talks were aimed at seeking a political settlement to end the fighting before the 18 month tenures of Rabbani and Hekmatyar expire June 28.

Rabbani's Jamiat-i-Islami faction has rejected any talks with Dostum, a former communist and one-time ally who tried to overthrow the president in an unsuccessful coup attempt in January.

## Amnesty: Human rights in Turkey 'graver by the day'

LONDON (AFP) — Human rights violations in Turkey get "graver by the hour," notably in the Kurdish-dominated south-east of the country, Amnesty International said Wednesday.

Painting an apocalyptic picture of violence and intimidation in Turkey, the London-based human rights group urged the sending of "an expert mission to investigate the crackdown on freedom of expression and systematic practice of torture."

The group said the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe should send a mission to Turkey.

"The situation gets graver by the hour. Every week more people are thrown behind bars accused of pro-Kurdish 'separatist propaganda'; death-squad-style killings are reported almost daily; and there has been an alarming increase in disappearances," Amnesty said.

"Unless decisive action is taken now the practice of disappearance, like that of extrajudicial executions and torture, will become established in Turkey as routine tool of intimidation and elimination," the rights group said.

Since the start of the year, at least 24 opposition figures had disappeared without trace and the bodies of many more had been found after their kidnapping, it added.

The situation is particularly alarming in Turkish Kurdistan where 871 villages have been forcibly depopulated and homes torched by government forces, the group said.

Since March, more than 8,000 people have been forced to take refuge in neighbouring Iraqi Kurdistan.

Amnesty's Turkey report also condemned rights violations by the separatists of the

Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) including the murder of civilians, journalists and local politicians.

However, Amnesty said the government "must not use the conflict in the south-east to justify security force violation against its own citizens."

In Ankara Tuesday, two Kurdish deputies from the dissolved pro-Kurdish Democratic Party (DEP), who had taken refuge from arrest in the Turkish parliament, left the building and returned to their homes.

Ankara prosecutor general Nuret Demirli ordered their arrest Monday after Turkey's constitutional court dissolved the DEP for "separatist activities" and announced it was ending the mandate of its 13 deputies.

Of the DEP's 13 deputies, five are already under arrest on "separatism" charges, after their parliamentary immunity was lifted in March.

The six others are currently in Bursa and said Monday: "If necessary, we could ask for political asylum but at the current stage we do not envisage it."

On Wednesday, two of the party's lawyers were expected in Paris to meet the other members of an international commission set up to defend the imprisoned Kurdish deputies, one of the lawyers, Feridan Yazar said in Ankara.

The commission of lawyers, trade unionists and lawyers from six countries also includes former French foreign minister Roland Dumas as a member.

The group is expected to present a petition to the Human Rights Commission calling for Turkey to be prosecuted for rights violations and suspended from the Council of Europe.

## 6 tourists, 4 Turk injured in two bomb blasts

ANKARA (R) — Six tourists and four Turks were hurt when two bombs exploded in a tea garden in the Turkish Mediterranean resort of Fethiye, officials said on Wednesday.

Hospital staff said none of the injuries were serious.

"Most of them have left. Two had surgery but they are fine now — most just had a shot scattered in their hands and feet," a hospital official said.

Anatolian news agency said earlier four Germans, a Briton and an Austrian were injured.

There have been more than 10 bomb attacks on

crowded tourist areas and municipal buildings in Turkey in the last few months. In an attack in April, two tourists were killed and at least 15 injured in a bomb blast in Istanbul's crowded covered bazaar.

Some attacks have been blamed on the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), fighting for an independent state in the southeast. The PKK brought in guerrillas to fight to the west last year when it targeted resorts on Turkey's touristic western and southern coasts. It has vowed to do so again this year.

## 'Despite media rhetoric, Syria eager for peace'

By Kate Dowrian  
Reuter

DAMASCUS — Syria's state media has been repeating the same refrain for months — no peace with Israel until all occupied lands are restored to the Arabs, even if it takes years.

But diplomats say their reading from Syrian officials is that Syria is keen to achieve progress in the U.S.-sponsored talks with Israel.

"Forget about the editorials. Syria is eager for peace even if you hear the newspapers talking about Syria waiting to wait months or even years," said one diplomat.

While it is hard to gauge the political mood in Syria with certainty, one theme remains constant: Damascus will only accept a settlement if it meets the criteria set out in U.N. resolutions. Partial or secret meetings are non-starters. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Tuesday renewed a call for direct, high-level talks with Syria while visiting the Golan Heights seized from it in 1967.

President Hafez Al-Assad's spokesman, asked by Reuters to comment on Mr. Rabin's proposal, repeated the official line.

"The goalposts have been set even though the two sides remain far apart and the proposals remain unacceptable to both sides. But it is something to work on," one said.

The gist of the proposal, as reported in the Israeli media and in Washington, appears to involve a phased Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights with the timing and number of stages to be discussed.

Syria is insisting on an Israeli declaration that would enunciate clearly its agreement in principle to withdraw fully from the Golan before it will satisfy Israeli demands for normal relations, including trade and diplomatic ties.

The official Syrian news agency SANA on Tuesday quoted U.S. official sources in Washington as telling an Arab radio station that Syria had informed Mr. Christopher that his return to the region would be fruitless if he did not obtain "an Israeli commitment in principle for a full withdrawal from the Golan."

Diplomats in Damascus say it is not unusual for Syria to make its position known in an indirect way.

Mr. Christopher on Monday predicted progress in Israeli-Syrian peace negotiations before the end of the summer. Syria's editorial writers shifted gear Tuesday.

Al Baath newspaper, organ of the ruling party, reminded Israel — which is no longer referred to as the Zionist state since the peace talks started — that its talk of needing to guarantee its security was misplaced since Israel was the aggressor and not the Arabs.

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## Egyptian authorities crack down on Muslim Brotherhood

By Mae Ghawash  
Agence France Presse

CAIRO — In an abrupt change of policy, the Egyptian government is cracking down on the Muslim Brotherhood, an organisation it had until recently sought to use as a counterbalance to militant Muslim radicals.

The government had an illusion that by tolerating the Brotherhood they were showing that they were against terrorism, but supported it, said Nigaid Borai, secretary general of the Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights (EOHR).

"But then they realised that was fueling the terrorism," because the organisation ultimately shared the same aims, he added.

The government turned on the Brotherhood, a non-violent Islamic movement, after an intensive police offensive succeeded in neutralising the main militant group, the Jamaat Islamiyya.

Security forces killed leading members of the Jamaat and rounded up hundreds of suspects to end a violent anti-government campaign by militants which claimed more than 300 lives.

"When the government felt they were close to a final victory against the violent elements of the religious movement, they started a campaign against the political elements," a Cairo-based diplomat, who closely monitors the movement, said.

For the first time since Hosni Mubarak became president in 1981, popular Muslim scholars who sympathised with the Brotherhood have been barred

from state media.

Egyptian officials are describing the Brotherhood with terminology once reserved for the militants — "illegitimate" and "terrorist".

And although the detention of Brotherhood members is routine, some are facing capital punishment.

The Brotherhood was officially banned here in 1954, after a failed assassination attempt on President Gamal Abdul Nasser. But under Mr. Mubarak, the group had been allowed to function openly.

Although banned from joining parliament under a religious party ban, the Brotherhood joined as independents and Socialist Labour Party members.

They have virtually taken over student associations and professional unions, representing doctors, lawyers and engineers.

Government officials hoped by tolerating the Brotherhood they would counter militant accusations that they were unbelievers.

But it became clear that despite being non-violent, the Brotherhood shared the militants' objectives.

"Our political aim is to overturn the government," confirmed Brotherhood member Essam Al Arifian.

Famous Islamic scholar Fahmy Howdy, a fundamentalist sympathiser, was barred from writing his weekly opinion piece in the semi-official daily Al Ahrar.

The provocative but popular Sheikh Mohammed Al Ghazali no longer appears on religious television programmes.

And the public prosecutor last month summoned the Brotherhood's general guide, Hamed Abu Al Nasr, for questioning about a leaflet distributed last

Wednesday.

Weather supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Fine weather will prevail with winds northwesterly light to moderate. In Aqaba winds will be northwesterly and sea calm.

Yesterdays high temperatures Amman 33, Aqaba 20. Humidity readings: Amman 18 per cent, Aqaba 38.5 per cent.

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth: Church Swiss, Tel. 210740. Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 437785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 435292. Church of the Ascension Tel. 657440. De Salle Church Tel. 651757. Transfiguration Church Tel. 623365. Church of the Ascension Tel. 623364.

Anglican Church Tel. 636851. Tel. 626243.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772561.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Assyrian International Church Tel. 652326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 324723.

Co-operation Evangelical Congregation Tel. 694165.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654973.

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691.

The Evangelical Local Church Tel. 811295.

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# Home News

## French business teams to discuss boosting Kingdom's industry

By Elia Nasrallah  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Two French business delegations are due in Amman this weekend for talks on trade ties and ways of helping boost Jordan's industrial sector.

On Friday, a 16-member delegation which had been to Iraq is coming to Amman for a one-day visit during which it will sign with the Jordanian Businessmen Association (JBA) an agreement for the establishment of a joint Jordanian-French Business Council, according to JBA sources.

The visit and the creation of the joint council were prepared during last month's meeting in Paris of Jordanian and French businessmen who were sounding the possibility of boosting economic cooperation, said the sources.

The delegation, to be led by Thierry Corraine, will meet with JBA members and follow up discussions on the joint ventures that were re-

viewed at the Paris meeting. The meeting in the French capital was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and attended by Minister of Industry and Trade Rima Khalaf.

The delegation, according to the sources, will visit the Amman Chamber of Industry and discuss projects related to textiles and the shoe industry.

Chamber officials said that in 1993 Jordan imported from France commodities worth JD 98.5 million up from JD 78 million in 1992, whereas Jordan's exports to France increased to JD 1.3 million, up from JD 90,000 in the previous year.

The chamber source said that Jordan has been exporting potash, vegetables and fruit to French markets and importing television sets, cars, cheese, scents, spare parts for machinery and vehicles, poultry, radiators and boilers and parts for aircraft, among other commodities.

The Paris meeting, accord-

ing to JBA President Hamdi Tabbaa, was designed to help Jordan increase its exports of potash, fruit and vegetables to France and other European countries.

On Saturday, a seven-member French delegation of businessmen is due here on a three-day visit.

Chamber of Industry sources told the Jordan Times that the team includes representatives of various industrial concerns who would discuss prospects of helping establish small- and medium-size industrial schemes to produce components for larger Jordanian industries.

The team will be meeting with Industry and Trade Ministry officials, the Chamber of Industry and Jordanian industrialists, according to the sources.

The team is expected to meet with the ministry's Secretary General Marwan Awad and the members of "sub-contracting unit" whose duty is to provide service to the industrial sector in Jordan.

## 'Time to discuss tourism with everyone'

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — While Minister of Tourism Mohammad Adwan believes that having any kind of contact over tourism with Israel at this stage is "premature" businesspeople in the trade think otherwise.

"We have to deal with matters in an open-minded and pragmatic manner," says Mohammad Imam, general manager of International Tourist Travel Services, adding that in view of the tangible progress on the Jordanian-Israeli peace track, Jordanian travel and tourist agents have to start communicating with the Israelis to prepare for any future bilateral agreement on tourism in the region.

Mr. Imam adds that "we should not act like ostriches and hide away from reality." The reality, according to him,

is that Jordan's tourism cannot survive without coordination with Israel, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon and the Palestinians.

Mr. Adwan maintains that matters concerning tourism in the region will only be discussed in current peace negotiations.

While informed sources in the tourism business told the Jordan Times that Jordan was represented in a tourism conference in Tel Aviv on June 13, Dr. Adwan said that he "had no knowledge of it, has not been consulted on (the issue), and, therefore, (he) can deny it."

The Israeli daily newspaper, Haaretz, said last week that five Jordanian businessmen were scheduled to attend the conference for which "Jewish businessmen were queuing."

The tourism business sources, who asked not to be

named, said that there was no harm in participating in such "friendly and beneficial" conferences to hear the "other point of view."

Mr. Imam said that since "we sat with the Israelis in Madrid, Washington and will be doing so in Aqaba next month, it is no big deal to meet with them in the occupied territories for business purposes."

He said believed preparations should start by providing the "proper" infrastructure for tourism-related projects in Petra, the Kingdom's main attraction, and by establishing other bridges linking both the Palestinian self-rule areas and Israel to Jordan.

"We want tourists coming from the Holy Land to come and stay and not just use Jordan for an excursion," said Mr. Imam.

## 47 duty exempted projects registered

AMMAN (J.T.) — In the first five months of 1994 the Ministry of Industry and Trade registered 47 approved economic projects which are normally exempted from customs duty on equipment and assets, according to Iyad Qudah, assistant director of the Department for Encouraging Investment at the ministry.

Mr. Qudah said that the ministry also registered 25 economic projects which have less levels of exemptions and approved the expansion of already existing 152 other economic projects.

According to Mr. Qudah, these projects combined created 6,230 jobs, registering 453 more compared to the jobs created in the same period of last year. An approved economic project is exempted from income tax, as well as customs fees, while the economic projects enjoy exemption from customs duty only on their fixed assets, according to Mr. Qudah.

He said that exemption from income tax lasts from the time when project has been established until the start of production. Many are industrial projects, producing items for export, he added.

The minister said that the government plans to grant 100 per cent income tax exemption on exports, up from the present 70 per cent, in order to encourage local industrial projects to export goods and try to open new markets for Jordan in Europe and America.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Graduation ceremony

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan Wednesday held the last graduation ceremony for this academic year for students from the faculties of medicine (85), law (259), nursing (184) and post graduate studies (683). A series of ceremonies were held earlier for the graduation of batches of other faculties.

**Shafii', Bakhit hold talks**

AMMAN (Petra) — The deputy director of the Islamic Education Ministry, Mohammad Shafii', Wednesday held talks with Al Al-Bayt University President Mohammad Adnan Al Bakhit on cooperation in Islamic education. Dr. Bakhit outlined Al Al-Bayt University's programs which focus on the teaching of Arabic language and Islamic studies to students from the Arab and Islamic World.

**Environment seminar**

DEIR ALLA (Petra) — The Business and Professional Women Club and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation Wednesday organised a one-day seminar on ways of protecting the environment from pollution at Deir Alla, in the Jordan Valley. Among the speakers was Dr. Halah Al Khami, from the University of Jordan, who talked about rural women's contribution towards protecting the environment and the dangers of excessive use of pesticides.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### WORLD CUP USA 1994

★ Arabic language video series of World Cup football matches entitled "World Cup USA 1994" at the American Center auditorium (4:00-5:00 p.m.).

### FILM

★ Video film in French on sculptor "Olivier Descamps" at Darat Al Fann of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh on Thursday at 5:00 p.m.

★ Film entitled "Wildcats" at the American Center on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. (106 minutes).

★ Film entitled "27 Hour" at the Spanish Cultural Centre on Thursday at 4:30 p.m. (Tel 610858).

### THIRD YOUTH THEATRE FESTIVAL

★ Drama in Arabic entitled "The Strongest" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

★ A painting exhibition by Iraqi painters the Pioneers Group at Alia Art Gallery — Wadi Sagra Tel: 644451, at 7:00 p.m.

★ Painting exhibition by Naila Deeb on the Goethe-Institut at 5:30 p.m.

★ An art exhibition "The Form and Colour in the Arab Art Exhibition" by 16 artists from Jordan and Iraq and the Spanish Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition of paintings by Sophia Ziadeh at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition of works by several Arab artists at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 695291).

★ Exhibition by artist Mohammad Fradi at the Othali Art Gallery in Umm Utheina (Tel. 826932).

★ Child Needs Expo at the International Motor Exhibition, Airport Highway (Tel. 653836).

★ Exhibition by plastic artist Shawkat Al Alousi at the Alia Art Gallery (Tel. 672872).

★ Exhibition on the development of "Le Louvre" at the French Cultural Centre.

★ Painting exhibition by artist George Bahjouri at Al Balqa Art Gallery (Tel. 728677).

★ Painting exhibition by Jordanian artist Abdin Ra'if Sham'oun at Darat Al Fann of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).



Thoucan Al Hindawi  
Jordan, India discuss cooperation in agriculture

AMMAN (Petra) — Topics related to Jordanian-Indian trade and the joint fertiliser project implemented in Jordan were reviewed Wednesday by acting Prime Minister Thoucan Hindawi and visiting Indian Agriculture Minister Balram Jakhar in the presence of Minister of Agriculture Mansour Ben Tarif.

Mr. Hindawi was briefed by the two ministers on the outcome of talks they have been holding over the past two days related to trade and agricultural cooperation between Jordan and India.

Being the main importer of Jordanian phosphate and fertilisers, India is expected to buy \$145 million worth of these products from Jordan this year, said Sameh Madani, director of general of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC), following a meeting with Mr. Jakhar.

But Mr. Madani noted that India's imports of Jordanian products registered \$157 million last year, up from \$95 million in 1991.

Referring to Jordan's imports from India, Mr. Madani said that last year they registered \$76 million, up from \$21 million in 1991.

He said that Jordan imported Indian soya beans, cereals and frozen meat along with pesticides, machinery and machine spare parts.

India and Jordan are currently implementing a \$165 million factory to produce phosphate-based fertilisers.

The Indian minister also Wednesday met Suleiman Howari, director general of the Arab Potash Company (APC), who said later that Jordan's potash exports to India this year could reach 420,000 tonnes.

The agriculture minister, accompanied by Mr. Jakhar on a tour of the Graeco-Roman city of Jerash and agricultural projects in the Zarqa River Basin as well as the King Tal Dam.

The plan's chief aim is to set the general policy to be followed with regard to priority fields of action and strategies to be implemented.

This consultative meeting, which is one of other

## Ministry of Health, WHO to launch 5-year plan for fighting AIDS

By a Jordan Times  
Staff Reporter

AMMAN (J.T.) — Working in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Ministry of Health is preparing an integrated programme to fight off the killer disease AIDS in the coming five years; the private and public health sectors are also involved in this national scheme.

The announcement was made Wednesday by Dr. Makram Nsheiwat, director of the Medical Professions Department at the Ministry of Health, at the opening of a three-day workshop organised at the Jerusalem Hotel by the Jordanian Society for Family Protection and Planning, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the WHO.

"Reaching out to the most vulnerable sectors in our society and orienting them on means of protecting them-

selves against AIDS is at the top of priorities of the five-year plan," said Dr. Nsheiwat, who deputised at the meeting for Health Minister Aref Al Bataineh.

The Health Ministry had said that until last month only one AIDS case was registered among Jordanians and three among foreign nationals, raising to 70 the total number of Jordanians and to 30 that of foreigners infected with the disease since 1986 when the first case was reported.

Despite the fact that Jordan is among the countries with a very low rate of AIDS cases, the Health Ministry is determined to double its efforts to stem the disease completely through spreading awareness among the youth and through various public awareness campaigns, said Dr. Nsheiwat.

Indeed, the Health Ministry embarked on awareness programmes ever since 1980 and has been adopting mea-

asures of screening blood donated by people, testing incoming visitors and controlling all blood transfusion processes.

The fact that the WHO has adopted the motto "AIDS and the family" for this year indicates that special attention must be given by families to the need of combating the disease, and the ministry is therefore trying to mobilise all public and private sectors to attain the aspired goal, according to Dr. Nsheiwat.

Dr. Omar Suleiman, WHO representative, told the meeting that ignorance and poverty are fertile grounds for the spread of AIDS.

Noting that the Middle East region has a total of 75,000 AIDS cases, Dr. Suleiman said that this was largely due to the fact that the countries of this region host 80 per cent of refugees and displaced persons as a result of conflicts or natural disasters and also because the Middle East contains many

Commission member and supervisor of Public Relations Committee Marjan Rahadi.

The package also contains discussion on National Commission's role in the implementation of the organisation's decentralised activities and development of cooperation between national commissions and UNESCO field units.

Also on the agenda is a discussion of sub-regional, regional and inter-regional cooperation between national commissions, joint projects and assistance to the newly-established and for newly-structured national commissions.

A report on the conclusions of the consultation, along with reports on all other consultations carried out in the first half of 1994, will be submitted to the organisation's Executive Board at its 145th session in October 1994. The six-year Draft Plan and Draft Programme will then be drawn in line with guidelines provided by the Executive Board for consideration by the General Conference at its 28th session in October 1995.

According to Mr. Jweihan, all administrative and organisational preparations have been made to render this meeting a success. "Jordan has been chosen to host the meeting because of the good reputation Jordan has with regard to the administrative and technical aspects," he said.

## UNESCO Arab National Commissions meet to prepare draft plan for 1996-2001

By Karanza Jadoun  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Under the patronage of Education Minister and Chairman of the Jordan National Commission for UNESCO Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh, Amman will host a five-day consultation of Arab National Commissions for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) starting June 25.

The consultation of member states, associate members and inter-governmental and international non-governmental organisations will focus on the preparation of the Fourth Draft Medium-Term Plan for 1996-2001 and Draft Programme and Budget for 1996-1997.

The preparation of the plan, according to UNESCO Director General Federico Mayor, which will bring UNESCO into the twenty-first century through anticipating events and preparing for fast changes in the world at a time of unprecedented social, economic and political upheavals, will be one of the organisation's most critical tasks over the coming couple of years.

The plan's chief aim is to set the general policy to be followed with regard to priority fields of action and strategies to be implemented.

This consultative meeting, which is one of other

meetings that are being held at sub-regional, regional and inter-regional level since May and till the end of July 1994, has come as a result of UNESCO's General Conference.

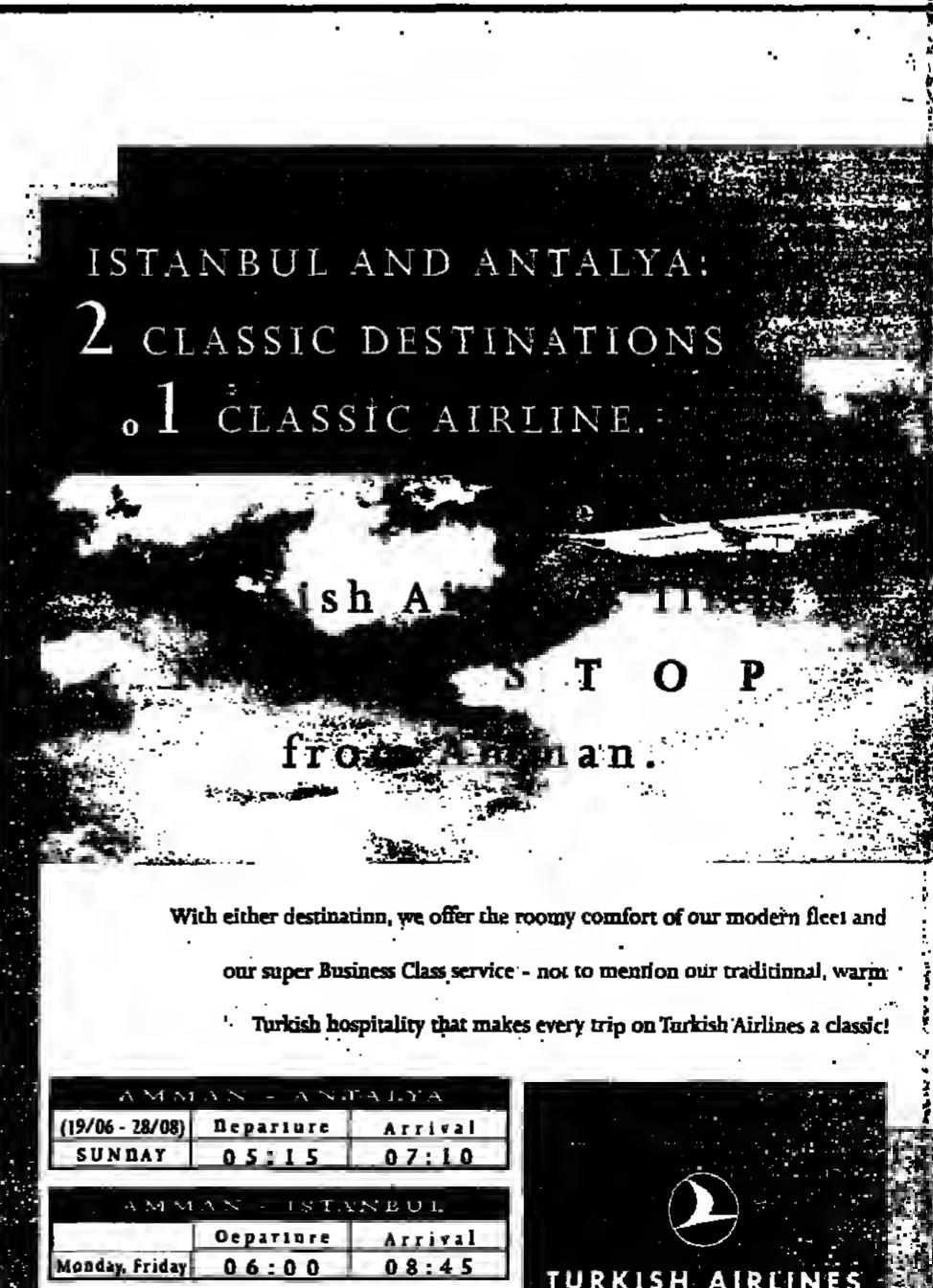
At the General Conference, held in November 1993 in Paris, member states were in favour of a six-year plan that would draw the major lines of emphasis for the organisation's mission and action during the period 1996-2001.

According to Maram Rahadi, a member of the Jordan National Commission, the member states also wanted a more flexible way of consultation.

Member states want to take part in drawing plans and strategies that concern their countries. They seek a concrete valuable contribution and a more direct involvement in the preparation of programmes instead of lengthy and complicated questionnaires they used to receive," Mrs. Rahadi told the Jordan Times.

Deputy Director-General and Assistant Director-General for Science and Technology Adnan Badran will deliver UNESCO's director-general's speech at the opening ceremony in which the chairperson, vice-chairperson(s) and rapporteur(s) will be elected and the meeting's agenda adopted.

Mr. Badran will be accompanied by Albert



## Jordan Times

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### Parallel, not competing, tracks

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein has only expressed the inevitable when he announced in Washington Tuesday that the Jordanian negotiating track need not be bogged down by progress, or the lack of it, on other tracks. The Jordanian-Israeli negotiations due to start again next month in the region are "not negotiations linked to anything that may or may not happen on any other track," the King said. He went on to add that the Kingdom's negotiations with Israel constitute "a sovereign matter involving Jordan itself and has nothing to do with, nor is it tied to, movements on any other track."

This Jordanian decision was not taken in a vacuum. It is no secret that there has been no adequate coordination between the various Arab parties to the peace process despite pretenses to the contrary. Jordan has all along the years called and insisted on full and *bona fide* cooperation and coordination between the Arab negotiating teams. No one can accuse Jordan of not having been steadfast in that direction throughout the past years and ever since the Madrid peace conference was launched in 1991. There was a time when Jordan was the first Arab party to reach preliminary agreement with Israel but decided to put its track on hold until the other Arab parties register equal progress. Recent developments revealed that Jordan ended up far behind in its own negotiating process. The record of Arab coordination speaks for itself and the least that can be said about it is that it did not reflect the degree of coordination and openness that Jordan had hoped for.

However, Jordan remains committed to the need for achieving a comprehensive peace in the region, ensuring not only Jordan's sovereign rights but also those of our brethren in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine. Besides, there is no way that the PLO can complete its negotiating process with Israel as long as Jordan's interests continue to be held in suspense. The resolution of the Palestinian question, and the quest for Palestinian independence necessitate not only Jordanian support but also parallel progress on the Jordanian front in order to give an added coherence to the Palestinian just and legitimate aspirations.

All Arab parties are poised to move to an advanced stage in their respective negotiations. What is holding up some of them is not substance but form. Jordan, therefore, believes that a comprehensive settlement of the conflict is not only desirable but essential, since peace is the goal of all the peoples and leaderships in the region.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Wednesday tackled the Palestine refugees question, saying that they were ignored in the ongoing Arab-Israeli peace process. Of course, we do not expect the refugees question to be solved through their repatriation to their usurped lands but at least they should receive compensation for their loss of property and homes, said Yousef Abdullah Mahmoud. The issue of compensating the refugees is the focus of attention of Mohammad Rabie, who is currently visiting Jordan to discuss prospects of compensation, which is the right of the Palestinian people who have been displaced and living since 1948 in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the Palestinian camps of the occupied territories, said the writer. The writer said that Dr. Rabie should urge the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to make it a condition that compensation will be paid prior to achieving a lasting settlement. The writer said that the world community should support Dr. Rabie's idea of creating a special organisation for the rights of the refugees so that their plight can be presented at the world level and that serious efforts be made to ensure safeguards for their rights.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour Wednesday demanded that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) ask for the release of all detainees. Mohammad Kawash said that by forcing the released detainees to remain confined to the autonomy rule in Jericho, Israel is trying to create further problems for the Palestine National Authority, which is dedicating its time and effort to provide much needed help to the Palestinians following 27 years of occupation. By withdrawing its forces from the Gaza Strip and Jericho areas, said the writer Israel has aimed at shifting the burden of catering to the social and economic needs of the Palestinian people and their institutions to the Palestine National Authority, which has not yet received any of the promised aid to help it establish its control of the evacuated regions. The Palestinian people under autonomy rule, added the writer are in need of better life, jobs and services, not of more complications and additional burdens.

### The View From Academia

## The Middle East peace process, the U.S. role and the Arab position.

By Dr. Ahmad H. Majdoubah

UNQUESTIONABLY, the U.S. role as sponsor and broker in the Middle East peace process and the positive Arab response to peace initiatives are two fundamental factors which have significantly contributed to the overall improvement of the prospects of a comprehensive settlement of the region's various thorny issues, a settlement which appears closer to attain now than it has ever appeared since the beginning of the Arab-Israeli conflict. However, while the American involvement is on the whole active but cautious, Arab reciprocation or engagement is generally warm but somewhat unenergetic.

Presently, the U.S. administration's stance with regard to the Middle East conflict seems far more informed and affirmative than it has been for years. Three points need to be highlighted in this respect.

1. To be sure, one is still frequently vexed by Washington's often "bland," unscrupulously, ambiguous and extremely noncommittal statements on Jerusalem, the illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, and Israel's prostration tactics in negotiations with the Palestinians as well as (most recently) Israel's flagrant violations of the principles of the agreement with the PLO. Furthermore, one is still disappointed with its handling of the Aqaba affair, the siege imposed on the Iraqi people, and its bias toward Israel. The American administration is, until this very day, much more alert to, supportive of and sympathetic with Israel's concerns, wishes and even whims than Arab needs and rights. The treatment is not even-handed.

Nevertheless, it has recently shown, through words and deeds, a willingness and a readiness to shift into a more desirable and fruitful relationship with the Arab Middle East, one which is more conscious and respectful of Arab feelings, aspirations, and national ideals. One often detects a more sober tone in American political discourse on the Arab and Muslim Worlds than at any time before. Also, the U.S. support for the PLO self-rule accord with Israel, the pledge to finance projects in the occupied territories, the constant contacts with Amman and Cairo, the channels of communication with Syria and Lebanon, are all steps in the right direction and signs of a more promising era of Arab-American relations. This is all heartening and encouraging.

2. Even though the American administration has a lot on its mind, in the messy aftermath of the cold war period, it is nonetheless devoting significant attention to the Middle East region. Globally, President Bill Clinton and his foreign policy team of secretaries and aides are keeping a close eye on a number of crucial and potentially threatening and dangerous events and developments: tension in the Korean Peninsula, the mounting conflict in Yemen, the impotent Bosnian initiatives, headaches coming from Haiti and some Latin-American countries, the shaky stability of former Soviet republics, the anxious relationship with Japan and China and occasional frictions with European countries. Locally, the economy and the president's various bills, projects and "scandals" are both troubling and disruptive.

And yet, the Middle East peace process is a priority on the U.S. political agenda. The administration not only greatly encourages and welcomes visits by Middle Eastern leaders and personalities and lends a listening ear, but it also

dispatches the secretary of state and other envoys to the region consistently on shuttle missions to resuscitate the peace process when it seems to lose consciousness, to explore new ideas the minute they appear in the horizon, to facilitate agreements when the momentum of peace builds up, and to sort out differences which threaten to sabotage progress. This is all reflected clearly, for example, in the PLO-Israeli Cairo agreement, the Syrian-Israeli exchange of letters, the views on the Golan and the recent Jordanian-Israeli talks in Washington. Such interest in the region on part of the U.S., despite whatever "motives" or "plans" there may be lurking behind it, is itself an asset.

3. The American approach to the Middle East question seems to be, though not as dramatic and intense as one would have hoped, quite realistic and reasonable. The way I see it, the current U.S. administration's philosophy in tackling the Arab-Israeli conflict seems to rest on the assumption that the parties to the conflict themselves are to play the major part. The U.S. is there as a catalyst, a messenger of goodwill, a host and a go-between. Ideally, one would have opted for a more rigorous, more involved and more heavy-handed approach. After all, who is to press Israel to be a little more reasonable and a little less inflexible and arrogant. But the Clinton administration, unlike Jimmy Carter's, is reluctant to play such a role. Its approach may best be described as the half-way approach; it is neither as detached as in the case of some previous administrations nor as devoted as in Mr. Carter's.

We are willing to understand and accept this philosophy, as long as the peace process does not last forever and eventually lose its pace and effectiveness, assuming the other tracks will soon be in full swing. Yes, since the conflict is between the Arabs and Israelis essentially the Arabs and Israelis have to learn to sit by themselves at the negotiating table and sort out their own differences. Judging from what has happened and is happening on the Palestinian track, such strategy seems to be quite possible, though certainly uninviting, painful, and extremely frustrating for the most part. One can even appreciate the U.S. administration's present approach, especially when one compares it with previous approaches, such as in the Reagan era (1980-1988) when the U.S. was extremely pro-Israeli and extremely lukewarm towards the Arabs generally when it showed almost no interest in the Arab Middle East region (Reaganomics, the Star-wars space programme, and tension with the Soviet Union were way higher on the U.S. agenda), and when there was effectively no approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict (the Reagan plan was pure lip-service).

I am not saying that the American Middle Eastern strategy these days is exactly what we in the Arab Middle East want. No. There are several flaws and gaps in it, from our own perspective. What I am saying, however, is that it does provide a historic opportunity — or half an opportunity, to be exact, for the U.S. administration is extending its hand to us only half-way.

But we in the Arab Middle East have also to extend our hand the rest of the way, and this is what I also wish to emphasize here.

Frankly speaking, I feel we can do a lot more than we are

doing to speed up the peace process and squeeze the best of results out of it. It is true that we do reciprocate and respond whenever an opportunity presents itself to us. It is also true that we are dealing with a very delicate, very sensitive and very complex situation, and that we ought to proceed with utmost care and caution. We want a solution to the Middle East problem which the vast majority accepts and which the future generations bless. We are entrusted with a task which is of vital importance not only to the Palestinians, the Jordanians, the Syrians, and the Lebanese but also to each and every individual in the Arab nation and the Muslim World. Jerusalem means as much to a Muslim in Indonesia as it does to a Palestinian from Sifwan.

But this does not mean that we take all the time in the world and let golden opportunities pass by. Nor should we stay at home comfortably and expect others to come and hand us our rights on a golden platter. I am extremely bothered by many writers, journalists, political scientists and politicians in the Arab World who still cling desperately to the very unhealthy attitude we have inherited since the beginning of the Arab-Israeli conflict and seem to be stuck with: i.e. that all people know that Israel is the aggressor; that it occupied our land by force, that the U.N. has granted us the right to return, that Israel must withdraw from the occupied territories unconditionally, and that the superpowers ought to pressure Israel into immediate return of our land. This is all true. But it is naive to assume that it can happen overnight or that it can be achieved through pure expression of ourselves, through media rhetoric, or through global justice or charity.

We need to get involved, to explore all the venues available, to be more aggressive in asserting ourselves and realising our just demands than we ever have. We have nothing to fear: International law is on our side, the world community (Eastern and Western) is more sympathetic than it has ever been, and history is with us. Nobody can force us to accept anything we do not think fair or just.

More specifically, we ought to do two things. First, we must stay in the peace process keep it alive, negotiate aggressively and press for results. We have rights to attain and Israel must yield us our rights. Otherwise, let Israel quit, no.

Second, let us simultaneously wean ourselves from passive reliance on the U.S. but keep in constant contact and coordinate closely with the Clinton administration whose attitude towards Middle Eastern peace is essentially well-meaning. The times when Warren Christopher cannot come to the area, we can go to Washington. Peace is an urgent business: Israel, America, and the whole world have as much to gain from it as we do. Through such contact and coordination, we can perhaps succeed in pressing the U.S. to pressure Israel to speed up the process. I view the recent Jordanian-Israeli peace talks in Washington and His Majesty the King's current visit to the U.S. in the context of such healthy and tactful diplomacy.

The present circumstances are quite congenial and benign. However, we cannot guarantee that they will last forever. We need to act a little more assertively and energetically, and we need to initiate not just receive or respond.

### North Korean summit offer derails sanctions

By Paul Shin  
The Associated Press

SEOUL — By offering to hold summit talks with rival South Korea, North Korean President Kim Il Sung has raised hopes for an easing of the crisis over his country's nuclear programme.

But some South Koreans worry that Mr. Kim's offer was made to derail U.N. sanctions against the North, and questions whether the summit will ever take place.

Mr. Kim made the offer to meet with South Korean President Kim Young-Sam during six days of mediation last week by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who visited both Koreas to try to ease mounting nuclear tensions.

The summit would be the first between the leaders of the rival Koreas since the peninsula was divided into the Communist North and capitalist South in 1945.

South Korean President Kim Young-Sam quickly accepted the proposal. His government has felt excluded by past bilateral U.S.-North Korean talks.

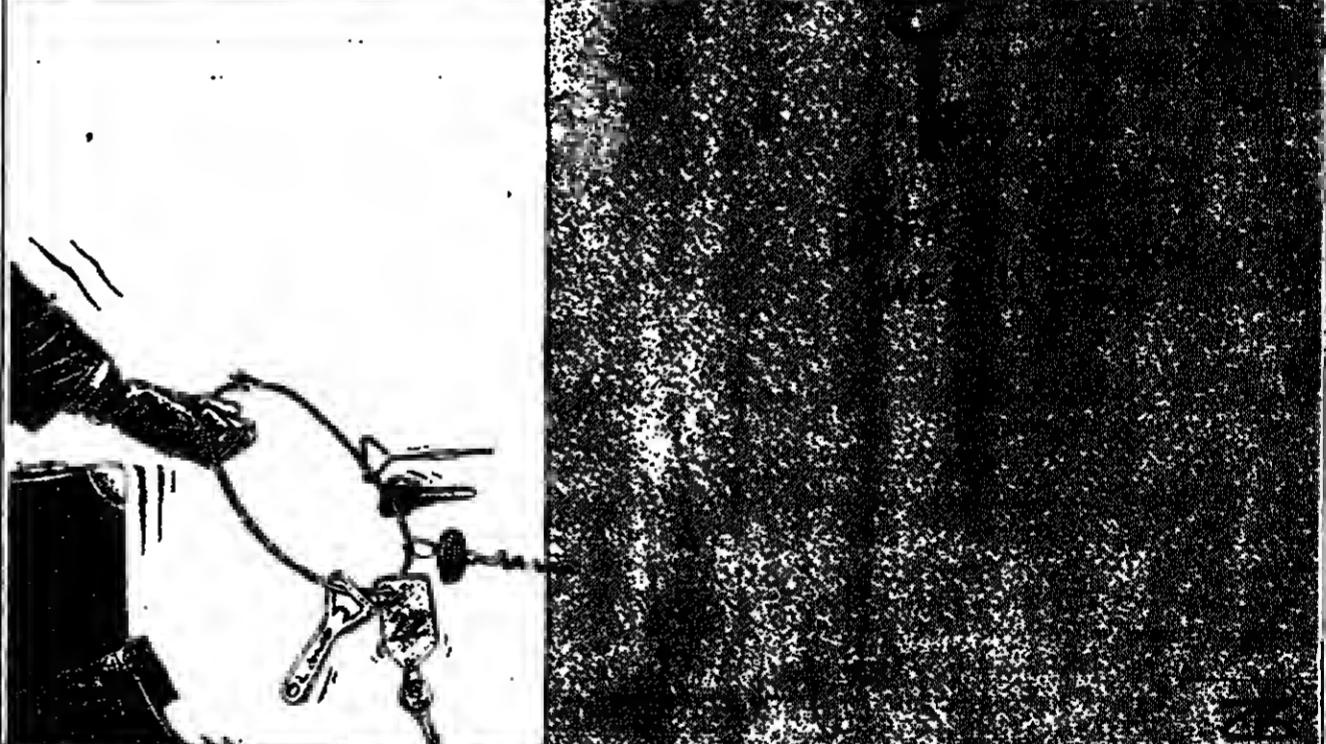
Mr. Carter spoke with President Bill Clinton by telephone on Sunday to brief him on his trip. Mr. Carter said afterwards in a television interview that he believes the crisis was over and saw no reasons to proceed with sanctions.

"The Carter visit gives North Korea time to get out of a sanctions situation,"

Ahng Byung-Joon, a political science professor at Yonsei University, said in the newspaper Chosun Ilbo. "In that sense, it could prolong the nuclear dispute rather than resolve it."

A request by the International Atomic Energy Agency to inspect two key North Korean nuclear sites more than a year ago prompted Pyongyang to threaten to withdraw from a nuclear non-proliferation agreement, triggering the current crisis. North Korea insists its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes: other nations want outside inspections of its facilities to make sure.

But Mr. Kim Yong-Sam, a secretary of North Korea's Ruling Workers' Party, told a visiting Japanese lawmaker that U.N. inspectors would not be allowed to see two key suspected nuclear sites that North Korea has not publicly declared.



### Clinton foreign policy team suspect as he faces greatest challenge

By Nick Ludington  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. President Bill Clinton is facing his first international crisis clearly affecting American strategic interests while his foreign policy team is under continuing criticism for indecision and confusion.

The dispute over North Korea's nuclear programme involves a threat to 37,000 American troops in South Korea, the specter of North Korean nuclear sales, and the security of two close allies — South Korea and Japan.

In the Bosnian conflict, the United States has no troops on the ground. The main argument for U.S. involvement is diplomatic: That U.S. leadership in Europe is at stake and European support for U.S. goals in other crises might be curtailed.

And Haiti is essentially a domestic problem, with the threat of an influx of refugees and their treatment causing more concern than Mr. Clinton's failure to restore ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power.

Only the Korean issue raises immediate strategic concerns. Letting North Korea develop nuclear weapons "would set a terrible precedent for non-proliferation efforts. North Korea could provide nuclear help to other rogue states such as Libya, Iran and Iraq."

But South Korean lives," Mr. Haass said.

He suggested in a New

York Times article that war would be less likely if U.S. forces in Korea are reinforced, and North Korea is told that any war would be carried on until the International Atomic Energy Agency to ensure that nuclear material is not diverted to build weapons.

North Korea's stated goal

is to engage Washington in talks leading to full U.S. diplomatic recognition and help in modernizing its economy.

Richard Haass, an expert at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, described Mr. Clinton's dilemma if diplomatic efforts fail to persuade Kim Il Sung to allow international nuclear inspections.

"We should ensure that both our actions and our words make clear to Pyongyang that we will not be intimidated by threats and will not be paralysed by the possibility of war," he wrote in the Washington Post.

Donald Gregg, a former CIA official and ambassador to South Korea, was for holding out the carrot.

Mr. Gregg was hopeful that if Mr. Clinton addressed broader issues of economic aid and trade with the North Koreans, the crisis can be defused.

"Bill Clinton is too smart a man not to figure out that he must talk to the North

Koreans as well as confronting them," Mr. Gregg wrote in the Post.

He quoted an unnamed South Korean general as saying that "the North Koreans think you are trying to strangle them. They want better relations with you."

But South Korea's defense Minister, Rhee Bonng-Tae, said he believed the North was not simply using fears over its nuclear intentions to win concessions.

"North Korea's nuclear weapons development is not for diplomatic bargaining," said Mr. Rhee. "It appears to be aiming to become a nuclear nation."

For Mr. Clinton, a successful outcome of the confusing Korea crisis will dispel foreign policy criticism.

Already the president has reached with a minor mid-level shakeup which will bring Richard Holbrooke, U.S. ambassador to Germany, to Washington to head up the state department's European operations and move Alexander Versbow, a highly regarded diplomat, to head European desk at the National Security Council.

But if things go badly with North Korea, it will increase the pressure for changes at a much higher level.

## Features

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JUNE 23-24, 1994 5

# King: President Assad and I understand each other very, very well; Jordan hopes there will be progress on all tracks

The following is the full text of His Majesty King Hussein's meeting with members of the press at the Four Seasons Hotel in Washington, Tuesday, June 21, 1994.

**KING HUSSEIN:** Good morning ladies and gentlemen. It's such a great pleasure for me to have this opportunity to be with you today. I am glad to see many old and very familiar faces. I hope that I'll have a chance in the next few minutes to respond to any of your questions. And first, I once again thank — to have an open dialogue — on behalf of Nour and the Jordanian group with me. We would like also to express our delight at seeing you at this hour.

**JOHN WALLACH:** Your Majesty, perhaps we could begin by first of all thanking you for spending your time with us and ask you to give us a sense of — if you think now that there has been enough progress made for Jordan to move forward towards a peace treaty with Israel?

**KING HUSSEIN:** I will even in response to your comments sir, that we are on the verge of beginning the serious negotiations that hopefully will lead to the establishment of peace between us. As you will recall, we ratified the agenda following the great event that took place here in Washington, on the Palestinian-Israeli track, and we have been writing to commence serious negotiations on all aspects of the problems mentioned in that agenda.

I believe that a major step was taken when the meetings were held here last. And I believe it is already constructive moment in the sense that we have decided to move to the area and to commence negotiations there.

I would like to say once again that we are fully convinced that nothing meaningful could have been achieved or could be achieved unless it was preceded by serious negotiations to resolve all problems and that the crowning achievement of all these efforts hopefully is a peace treaty and a state of peace between all parties.

**JOHN WALLACH:** Can you say, if I can just follow up, Your Majesty, whether in that context you would consider a visit to Jerusalem, to the holy sites, the Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem.

**KING HUSSEIN:** I have no such plans at the moment, sir. These suggestions have come from many (...) for me to consider that, but I hope the opportunity will arise when I will be able to visit the holy sites in Jerusalem.

**HAMDY FOUAD:** Your Majesty, will you tell us about your talks in Washington and your expected meeting with the president tomorrow, what you have achieved, what do you want to achieve actually, from your dialogue with the American administration?

**KING HUSSEIN:** As you probably realise, I'm here in the United States, in Washington, in particular, following my visit to Rochester, to the Mayo Clinic, where I'm pleased to say that I was given a clean bill of health. There was no evidence of cancer after two years of surgery, and therefore hopefully my visit to Mayo will be on an annual basis from now on. But I could not be in the United States and not be here in Washington, particularly at such an important and exciting time regarding developments in our region. So I have had talks with the Secretary of State, yesterday, and I report to meeting with the President tomorrow, and, in the meantime there are other meetings scheduled. And, whenever we meet, we meet to discuss all aspects of our bilateral relations and regional matters and the cooperation that we hope will grow in the times ahead between our two countries.

**TRUDY RUBIN:** Your Majesty, recently you visited President Assad in Damascus, and then shortly afterwards there was progress. — This is a question about coordination between the Arab parties to the peace process. You visited President Assad recently. Shortly afterwards there was progress on the Jordan-Israel track, but there has been some criticism heard from Syria that Jordan is moving too fast. Could you say something about the coordination with Syria and how the timing of progress can go forward, how fast can Jordan move if Syria is not moving? And also, on the question of Palestinian-Jordanian cooperation, when I was recently in Amman, I heard a word used often, frequently, even from Palestinians living on the East Bank that I hadn't heard in a while, and the word was federation, and I heard it used quite frequently. I wonder if you could say something about when the issue of the future relationship between the Palestinians and Jordanians have to be addressed again?

**KING HUSSEIN:** Well, to begin with, I think I'll address the second part of your question regarding the future of the relationship between Jordan and our Palestinian brethren, on Palestinian soil. I believe that it is premature to speculate as to what form it will take, I'm sure that it will be a very close relationship. And, I'm sure that in time, when conditions are ripe, people are under conditions of total freedom can work together to define that relationship. This hasn't happened so far, so it is premature to really define the way these relationships will be formatted. As far as your question regarding the peace process we started at the same point in time, and I believe that as far as Amman and Damascus are concerned, we've always been in touch. And in terms of matters relating to policy, these have been discussed time and again between me and the President of Syria Hafez Al Assad. So my visit there was actually within that context and we were negotiating, they were negotiating. I hope that eventually all these tracks will see active movement towards the objective of having a comprehensive peace in the region. But as far as we are concerned, we will be as fast or as slow as we are able to achieve real progress in resolving all the problems that are there on the agenda between us and Israel. And I hope that they will approach the coming negotiations with a constructive, serious spirit, and therefore we will move rapidly. I can't set a time, I really don't, but I really hope that we will see some rapid progress.

**AMAL MUDALLALI:** Your Majesty, on this question you said that you discussed these matters with Mr. Assad. Does this mean that you discussed the agreement that you had with the Americans, did he know about it beforehand? And why are the Syrians feeling betrayed that the Jordanians left them alone with the Israelis.

**KING HUSSEIN:** Well, I think this seems to happen, we seem to find every now and then that someone complains about another leaving him alone, but this hasn't happened on the very level that I was discussing. President Assad and I understand each other very, very well. I know of his concern to see Syria move towards achieving the kind of peace that it can live with, and that he knows that we are doing the same. So, in the area of coordination I would like to say that there has never been the kind of coordination that would enable us to know exactly where any track is at any given moment. We have our own peculiar set of circumstances and problems which we are trying to address and the Syrians have the same as do the Lebanese. Therefore movement as far as we are concerned — this is a question of a sovereign matter regarding Jordan itself. That has nothing to do, nor is it tied to movement on any other track. We hope that they will catch up and maybe they will overtake us at any time if they so desire but that is something which we can't do, that is something they can do.

**AZIZ FAHMI:** Your Majesty, immediately after this trip to Damascus, it was reported that either you or President Assad suggested a unity between Jordan and Syria. Will you be able to tell us whether this was a Syrian idea and what was the motivation?

**KING HUSSEIN:** No sir, we have always worked for complimentarity and the closest possible cooperation between Jordan and Syria, Lebanon hopefully, and certainly with Egypt, and there was a meeting of a Joint Commission with Egypt that was revived again, just a short while ago. And in the same context there was going to be a meeting with Syria. So this was postponed but essentially this would have dealt with the issues other than the political ones that usually are being dealt with between me and President Assad.

**SID BALMAN:** Your Highness, on the talks with the Americans, did you make any headway on your request to

resell F-5s and could you talk a little bit about that, who you would like to sell them to, and also your request to purchase additional American military equipment; and lastly, finalising the arrangements to get a land-based inspection system (...) the naval blockade in the Gulf of Aqaba?

**KING HUSSEIN:** I haven't had a chance to cover all these points in any detail, but we are, as far as Jordan is concerned, looking at the moment at the present situation and the future in terms of hopefully reorganisation of our armed forces and to meet the challenges of the demands of the coming period, both in terms of the defence of Jordan and also in terms of the role that we play in the international arena, particularly in the area of troops that are with the United Nations, have been, covering a period of time. So we have ideas and plans and we hope that we will be able to discuss them with our friends to modernise and to reorganise our armed forces in the times ahead.

**SID BALMAN:** It sounded as if you're discussing mainly ground, army-type equipment.

**KING HUSSEIN:** I'm not discussing anything in particular. I'm just giving you an idea of where we are at the moment, we haven't formulated our plans totally, but, obviously, we discuss our requirements with our friends.

**SID BALMAN:** And you're planning to resell the old American jet fighters?

**KING HUSSEIN:** Well, this is not something that is, well, obviously, if we replace them in the future, then we have to see what we replace them with and what we do with them. But, this is something that I'm not prepared to answer at this stage and something that we will be discussing with our friends.

**JIM ANDERSON:** Your Majesty, back on the peace process. At this stage do you think it is reversible? I'm thinking in terms of circumstances such as, for example, the Likud taking over the Israeli government. In such circumstances do you think the clock could be turned back to where the Middle East was three years ago?

**KING HUSSEIN:** I certainly hope not. And I believe that the process is irreversible and we are certainly committed to moving ahead towards establishment of a just, comprehensive peace in that region. This is something that we feel we are close to. But it is going to require the best efforts of all concerned. We are looking forward to seeing some rapid progress on the Jordanian-Israeli track and we hope that this will be the case with other tracks as well.

**JIM ANDERSON:** On that issue is there anything that the Americans could be doing right now to further advance the process?

**KING HUSSEIN:** They have been involved with the process and sponsored the process and, I'm sure, helped us very, very much indeed to get to this point and I hope that their involvement will continue in the times ahead.

**Q:** Your Majesty, how do you foresee Jordan's relations with Israel after an agreement is signed? Do you think it will be promising for the Jordanians in terms of economic and touristic interests?

**KING HUSSEIN:** As far as that goes I believe, obviously, that if we arrive at a state of peace, it will be a change of everything that we've had to live with and endure over many, many years. It will need to be the effort of all people in Jordan and Israel and the whole region, particularly if the circle is enlarged to include all involved in the conflict so far. As far as we are concerned, these coming negotiations, (...), as you know, within the areas of great concern for us are territorial rights, the border between us and Israel is not clearly settled yet in terms of an issue that is very, very important to us to regain our sovereignty over the areas that are occupied by Israel in southern Jordan at this stage. So, the question of border demarcation and delineation is very, very important. Not to create a new barrier, but in the context of movement towards peace, we hope that the valley itself will become the valley of peace, the valley of opportunities for cooperation on many themes, many areas.

Another area, of course, is of importance to us and that is the question of water and our rights and our share in that. Plus the environment, plus all the other subjects that have to be discussed. So what we are trying to do right now is, hopefully, approach a serious phase of negotiations to resolve all these problems and bring about the change that will affect the quality of life of people, affect them in terms of their hopes, aspirations, and the opportunities that would be the resulting factor of all this (...).

**HUDA TEWFIQ:** Your Majesty, you mentioned moving quickly between Jordan and Israel, and that there is no link between the Jordanian track and the other tracks. When you finish the negotiations on the agenda would you be ready to sign even if the other tracks are not progressing?

**KING HUSSEIN:** Our position on that is not linked to anything that may or may not happen on any other track. But I am saying that what we are searching for is a comprehensive peace, and therefore, one would obviously stress the need for progress on all tracks so that we achieve this comprehensive peace.

For example, in regard to Jordanian-Palestinian relations in the times ahead, we in Jordan continue to respond to any demand for help in any particular area. But let's say we take the area of economic dimensions, the economy as between us and our Palestinian brethren and Israel, if coordination has not achieved very much, then obviously we have to negotiate this subject as Jordan together with the Palestinians and the Israelis in the times ahead. In other words, there are bilateral negotiations, and trilateral negotiations and there are going to be quadrilateral negotiations, with Egypt for example, in terms of the return of Palestinians to the occupied territories.

We can't resolve the question of water without hopefully seeing progress everywhere. But the point is, our wish is for progress to be achieved on all tracks. However, we are a sovereign country, we are dealing with our own problems, we started at the same point, and we are trying to see what we can achieve. Whether we will or not does not depend on any other factor other than Israel standing to the same kind of spirit, and our mutually reaching a satisfactory conclusion between us and settling all the items on the agenda.

**HUDA TEWFIQ:** Would we see a peace treaty this year, Your Majesty?

**KING HUSSEIN:** I can't tell you that. I can't tell you.

**Q:** Your Majesty, you were quoted yesterday (Monday) saying you would agree to talk to Israeli leaders, as you've indicated you would in the past. Today they are responding, saying they would like to meet with you. Do you foresee that these peace talks beginning next month would lead to or include at some point, finally, a public meeting between you and the Israeli leaders?

**KING HUSSEIN:** Whenever the time is right, whenever there is a need to welcome that. It's no problem.

**Q:** Would you be willing to confirm for us whether you saw the Israeli leadership recently?

**KING HUSSEIN:** I am not going to comment on press speculations in that regard, to media speculations, one way or the other. I think you have had that answer, so this is the answer too.

**Q:** Your Majesty, going back to the problem concerning the Syrian criticism directly, or indirectly after the agreement in Washington. Can you explain to us why the Syrians are not happy about what happened in Washington in the last two weeks, resuming the negotiations, and what would be your response to that question Huda asked? Is the peace treaty, possible peace treaty between Jordan and Israel could happen without any progress on other tracks?

**KING HUSSEIN:** Let me ask you a question myself, to all of you. Is Jordan expected to be the last to ratify a peace treaty?

**KING HUSSEIN:** That's what we hope for will happen. But to get there we have to begin negotiating; and this is precisely what we are doing. So I hope that these serious negotiations will achieve some result.

**Q:** Your Majesty, will you explain please and shed some

light or what made you feel that it is the right moment to go forward on a road that, eventually, will end in a...

**KING HUSSEIN:** That was not our doing. We have, I think, suggested since the outset that we have to translate the items of the agenda into realities by negotiating over them. And that a peace treaty is the crowning achievement of resolving all the problems. So, we've been waiting, but when the Israelis were ready to begin, I think, we have seen some progress. So, it wasn't anything that was the result of our hesitation or attempt to hold the issue.

**Q:** Were there any historical moments that you thought that it was the right moment to go forward?

**KING HUSSEIN:** Not at all, sir. We weren't playing tactics. We were waiting and ready and the moment has arrived so we are beginning to move.

**AZIZ FAHMI:** Your Majesty, you mentioned something about the water rights, which the Israelis have been denying, or refusing to discuss water rights before, and finally they did this in Washington. Maybe this contributed to making progress on the Jordanian track. If you look back to the beginning of the establishment of Israel, from 1948 to 1951, Israel received 600,000 immigrants, and this caused a serious water shortage in Israel. As a result, Israel started to divert the Jordan River and a whole sequence of events that led to the 1967 War. Are you concerned now about the wave of immigration coming from Russia, that apparently now there are 450,000 already arrived on the ground in Israel? This, apparently, is posing a serious threat and shortage for water in Israel itself. Are you concerned that will be — do you see that this was one of the reasons for maybe the Israeli moves towards peace, and do you see a new threat on our waters because of new immigration?

**KING HUSSEIN:** I hope that the question of water resources available in the region will be resolved to the satisfaction of all. But on the other hand, I would like to say that it is my feeling that before too long even all these resources that are available will not be enough to meet the demands and the needs of all. So water is a very, very important subject and important need for everyone in the region. And that again, is a reason for us to move ahead because, among so many reasons, we have to resolve this problem that could be very explosive unless resolved. It cannot be resolved except in the context of peace.

**JOHN WALLACH:** The Israelis, Your Majesty, are suggesting a couple of days ago, that under the Johnston Plan, I think they have indeed received more water than they were allotted to, or they have stolen, if you want to use the word, more water. Has that been communicated to you that there is going to be an arrangement under which large quantities of water are restored to Jordan?

**KING HUSSEIN:** I certainly hope that we will receive our share and that will be defined in the coming negotiations.

**JOHN WALLACH:** Also, if I could just ask you another question, I know you can't speak for the Syrian leadership, but from your talks in Damascus, do you have any sense of what the major problem is now for the Syrians? There seems to be, as you know, Secretary Christopher has put off his trip to the region because he was not convinced that it would produce progress on the Syrian-Israeli track. Do you have any thoughts about what may be required either from the Israelis or from the Syrians to try to produce progress?

**KING HUSSEIN:** My impression is that progress was made and that certainly reflects my impression of the Syrian position in that they would like to get on with it as rapidly as possible and arrive at a satisfactory conclusion to these talks. I think that positions were set out and there probably are starting positions at this stage but I hope that on both sides there will be an effort to achieve progress, and I hope that we will see that happening in the time ahead. It is not for me to comment on when the Secretary will visit but I think that further progress is expected before too long.

**AMAL MUDALLALI:** Your Majesty, on the question of Jerusalem it seems nobody is talking about Jerusalem anymore. Is Jerusalem going to be just a Palestinian-Israeli issue and especially that the Palestinians won't have any leverage in two years.

**KING HUSSEIN:** Not in the least, not in the least. Maybe you haven't been hearing us, I think that we've been talking about Jerusalem continuously. And, our feelings for Jerusalem have never changed, will never change. And again, the idea that we are trying to put across is that we should somehow find a way by which we can address the problem in terms of the holy sites, holy to the followers of the three great monotheistic religions, three great Abrahamic religions, to remove those away from the realm of politics and politicking. And, we recognise no sovereignty over these holy places, except to God.

We hope that in a state of peace these places will come to symbolise peace between the followers of three great religions. And as far as the rest is concerned, I believe 242 applies to that side of the equation and I'm sure that future negotiations, we understand, will (...).

**HAMDI FOUAD:** Your Majesty, if you permit me to ask you about Yemen.

**KING HUSSEIN:** Ask.

**HAMDI FOUAD:** It's another subject, but still, you have a position and your position is very well known concerning the (...) there is actual war and there is no ceasefire. What is the Jordanian position, what is your position, Your Majesty, on this problem?

**KING HUSSEIN:** Sir, our position is we (...) over seeing the situation in Yemen develop to the point of war and military action. We regret the losses, those who have been lost in terms of the ongoing struggle, and those who have suffered and those who continue to face a threat within Yemen. We have tried our utmost to help all Yemenis achieve an understanding of how the state of Yemen would be (...) in the future and we have reached an agreement which they ratified, representatives of both schools of political thought and representatives of all the people of Yemen, in Amman. Unfortunately, it didn't last long and the situation has erupted. Actually it will be our wish and hope that the unity of Yemen could be maintained. But I am very concerned and very worried that even that might be in jeopardy at this stage. I hope somehow that the situation will improve. And that what is in the interest of Yemen will be in the forefront of the thoughts of all concerned.

**GEORGE TAMERLANI:** Your Majesty, you have said that, getting back to the face-to-face leadership with the Israeli leadership, you have said that you must wait, or when the time is right, and the Israeli leadership has used similar language. What's the sequence of provisional agreements on the various issues that must be achieved before the time is right for a face-to-face meeting, or is it necessary to wait until all areas are agreed?

**KING HUSSEIN:** Sir, let me put it another way. I think that it is fair to describe the situation in the following way. We are negotiating. Negotiations are taking place. Negotiations are going to take place. So whether they are at my level and the prime minister, or the level of our representatives at this stage, is one and the same thing. The question of exactly when we meet, hopefully we will see some progress before that happens, but the fact that we haven't met publicly doesn't mean that the efforts of our colleagues and those who represent both countries are not a reflection of the spirit and the desire to negotiate between the two as it is happening.

**MOHAMMAD WAHBY:** Your Majesty, regarding the venue of such conference, such a meeting with the Israelis, will it also be in the region, just like the other talks?

**KING HUSSEIN:** It could be, why not?

**KING HUSSEIN:** It could be in the region?

**KING HUSSEIN:** Yes.

**Q:** Your Majesty, just to clear up one thing, are you drawing a distinction between the starting of negotiations with the Israelis and the signing of the agreement? Because sometimes we are putting them together.

**KING HUSSEIN:** I think, sir, that this is a problem in the minds of many. I mean, obviously, it's a very important

## Japan shudders as yen soars in new financial nightmare

# Dollar sinks below 100 yen for first time in post-war history

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan shuddered Wednesday after the dollar sank below the important psychological barrier of 100 yen for the first time in post-war history, threatening to derail the fragile economic recovery now taking shape.

"Fears of industrial hollowing out," screamed the headline in the afternoon edition of the Asahi Shimbun, using the popular expression "for the increasing flow of Japanese exporters moving their manufacturing operations abroad, especially to China and other low-cost countries in Asia."

Despite reported intervention by the Bank of Japan, estimated to have bought hundreds of millions of dollars Wednesday in a desperate bid to halt the yen's latest appreciation, the dollar closed at 100.65 yen, barely above its opening level of 100.35 yen and down from 102.15 yen at Tuesday's finish.

The yen's overnight surge pushed the dollar below 100 yen for the first time since American occupation authorities generously set the post-war level of the Japanese currency at 360 yen to the dollar in 1949.

Although largely symbolic, many Japanese observers fear the breaching of the 100-yen barrier may establish a new floor of around 90 yen to the dollar, compared with a range of mainly 103 yen and 112 yen over the past year.

"The abnormally strong yen could not only damage the Japanese economy but bring about a collapse of the

manufacturers in this country," said Masaru Hayami, the chairman of trading house Nissho Iwai Corp., who currently chairs the Japan Association of Corporate Executives.

The yen's latest surge came only a day after the government announced that gross domestic product (GDP) in the three months to March grew by one per cent from the previous quarter, the strongest rate of expansion in three years.

Further good news came from separate data released the same day showing that the Economic Planning Agency's (EPA's) leading index of economic indicators was positive in April for the fourth month in a row.

In the wake of the historic movement in foreign exchange markets overnight, Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata called an "emergency" meeting of key cabinet ministers to discuss the latest crisis facing his two-month-old government.

Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii was quoted as telling fellow ministers that he would take "definite steps" to stabilise currency markets in cooperation with European countries and the United States.

But the meeting otherwise did little more than reconfirm support for economic reforms which are either being prepared or are already in place.

Japanese businessmen meanwhile aired varying degrees of concern, mindful that the dollar's decline from more than 120 yen to around 105 yen in the first half of last

year was a major factor in undermining the economic recovery just starting to take shape in the March quarter.

"It is a big shock to business circles that the yen has rapidly appreciated and the dollar has weakened against all major currencies at a time when Japanese economy is finally seeing the light of day," said Shioichiro Toyoda, the chairman of Japan's biggest carmaker Toyota Motor Corp.

Toyoda, the current chairman of the powerful Japan Federation of Economic Organisations (Keidanren), said the federation's research showed GDP would be eroded by 0.8 per centage points if the dollar stayed at 100 yen for a year.

Hiroshi Saito, chairman of top steelmaker Nippon Steel Corp., called for "any means" to halt the yen's rise including coordinated intervention.

"In the steel industry, 105-120 yen to the dollar is said to be what the foreign exchange rate should be. Export revenue will be eroded by the yen's rise but we are even more worried about a fall in domestic demand," he said.

Mr. Saito said the steel industry, which is already restructuring its activities in the wake of the yen's appreciation last year, sees 100 yen as the "final target" and anything below that is "very troublesome" for the industry.

But an official at NEC Corp., the country's leading manufacturer of semiconductors, said the company was

not worried for the time being.

"We're well hedged for the first half of the year," the official said. "We don't see any due impact at the rate of 99 yen."

"But if it becomes a trend and continues, the company will certainly see an adverse impact on its situation," he said. "We've worried that Japan's already fragile economy might be badly impacted by this new yen onslaught."

NEC's worldwide profits were eroded by 1.5 billion yen (\$15 million) by each one-yen decline in the dollar's value.

Economists said the yen's surge to a post-war high against the U.S. dollar is not good news for Japan's economic recovery but will not necessarily push the country back into recession.

The dollar opened here at a new Tokyo post-war low of 100.35 yen after falling to a global post-war low of 99.85 yen in New York on Tuesday, where it closed at 100.31/36.

Shortly after the Tokyo market opened Wednesday, Japan's central bank jumped into the market to buy dollars and the U.S. currency clawed back above 101 yen by mid-morning.

The yen's latest advance — which economists said was more a function of dollar weakness than yen strength — came just as a consensus was emerging that Japan's long-stalled economy had touched bottom and was poised for a modest recovery.

A stronger yen makes Japanese exports such as cars

and televisions more expensive and therefore less attractive to customers overseas.

Whether the latest currency move dashes recovery hopes hangs in part on whether the yen's rise above 100 yen to the dollar is more than a temporary blip, economists said.

"The economy was at a turning point and was thought to be about to improve. But if the yen stays above the 100 yen level, the upward trend will be halted and growth could be flat," said Hirohiko Okumura, chief economist at Nomura Research Institute.

Mamoru Yamazaki, senior economist at Goldman Sachs (Japan), said that if the dollar remained below 100 yen the economy was not likely to sink lower but if it fell to 95 yen the risk of hitting a new bottom was greater.

Private economists said that unless the yen remained well above 100 to the dollar for several months, Japan's economy could absorb the blow without disastrous effects.

"I think the effects (of the yen's rise) will probably be limited," said Robert Feldman, chief economist at Salomon Brothers Asia.

"Basically there is enough momentum in the economy that a yen at 100.00 to 105.00 (to the dollar) is not enough to derail things," he added.

Mr. Feldman said a dollar rate of below 100 yen was unlikely to be sustainable, in part because Japan's huge trade surplus is finally starting to shrink.

"I wouldn't rule out any-

thing (about exchange rates) but I think we are in the last stage of yen appreciation and it's not going to stay long," he pointed out.

Economists pointed to several factors which made Japan's economy more resistant to a strong yen than was the case last summer, when a yen surge helped scuttle a hoped-for recovery.

Companies have moved ahead with restructuring to cut costs and boost profitability, capital spending, while still sluggish is declining less sharply, inventory adjustment has progressed and housing investment has recovered after a weak first quarter, they said.

The stimulative impact of income tax cuts showing up in paychecks this month and again in December should also help the economy weather the strong yen, said Toshiaki Kakimoto, senior managing director at the Japan Research Institute.

"Psychologically, a negative effect is hard to avoid," Mr. Kakimoto said. "Companies were expecting a dollar rate of around 105/106 yen for 1994/95 (started April 1) so compared to that, a five yen rise will be harsh for (exporters') profits."

The dollar's collapse to a new post-war low has sparked worries of a fresh round of U.S. interest rate rises which in turn could prompt new turmoil on the bond and stock markets, dealers warn, adding that the U.S. currency could fall further.

The dollar's slump, triggered by a higher-than-expected U.S. trade deficit in April prompted a rise in U.S. long-term rates with a knock-on effect on bond and stock markets as dealers worried about inflationary pressures.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 33.93 to 3,707.97 points after a 34-point decline in each of the previous two days trading, while the London and Paris bourses lost more ground.

The U.S. trade deficit continues to supply world markets with excess dollars, leaving the currency vulnerable to further weakness, particularly against the yen as the deficit with Japan remains the largest on the U.S. account.

Dealers believe the currency is currently being sustained by threats of "massive punishment" from central banks who will wait until dealers have sold off dollars before counter-attacking with massive intervention.

The first yen notes issued by the Bank of Japan, founded in 1882, were convertible into silver but the central bank began issuing notes convertible into gold in 1987.

Japan prohibited the export of gold in 1917 but lifted the ban in 1930, only to reimpose it again the following year when Britain abandoned the gold standard. In 1942, the legal obligation of convertibility came to an end and the country formally shifted to a managed currency system.

In the near term, Chase Manhattan economist Ian Gunner said the dollar remained exceedingly vulnerable to a further downward correction, with a further test of new lows below 100 yen "still quite possible."

The commercial bank S.G.

Warburg said it was "quite happy" to stick with forecasts

that the dollar will fall to 1.50 marks and to 95 yen within the next 12 months.

In what is perhaps more worrying for the European markets, Warburg hinted that the key U.S. Federal Reserve policy-making Open Markets Committee (FOMC)

would raise interest rates ahead of the Group of Seven Naples summit on July 8-9.

The summit takes place three days after the July FOMC and if no interest rate actions are taken, the dollar can hardly be expected to stabilise.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY JUNE 23, 1994  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The well aspects Full Moon in Capricorn should assist you in handling any problem with cleverness and help you gain the goodwill of outsiders who can play a role in pending decisions of mutual concern.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A day when you can gain your aims by using mind over matter. Take steps to improve your health and be more productive. Use common sense.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 18) A new situation arises which is good for you and will get you out of a possible rut you are in. Use extreme care in travel to be cautious.

GEMINI: (May 19 to June 21) Resolve a problem with an associate and then this can be a most productive day. Be sure to keep your temper in check and don't get upset.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) You may want to run off to new sites, but delays arise, so be patient. Rise above limitations which are present. Take no risks in motion.

AQUARIUS: (January 20 to February 18) Find a better way to solve a personal problem you have. Attend to social events tonight and seek the company of congenial you wish to be with.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 20) Make needed changes that could give you added abundance in the future. The evening can be a most happy one for you and your mate.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY JUNE 24, 1994  
GENERAL TENDENCIES: You may want to quickly make some last minute or radical changes now but hold off and count on the good aspects to see you through current circumstances that are not to your liking.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Study your position with friends and strive to improve the relationships. Show what you have pose and can handle any situation. Be wary of outsiders.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Be sure to keep promises made to family members. A new project needs more study before going ahead with it and to reach a conclusion.

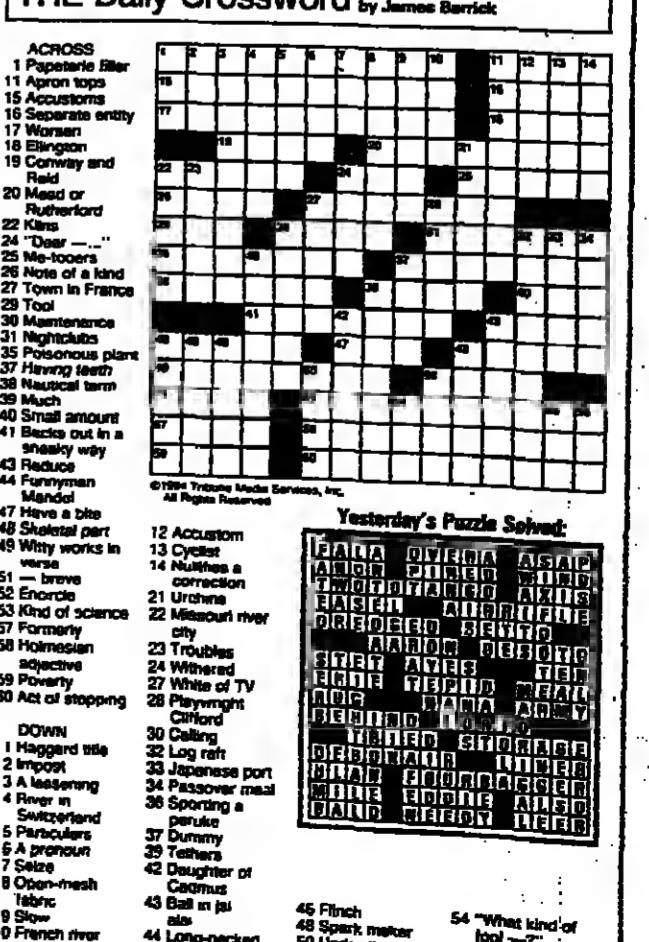
SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 20) Be more objective in dealing with others and get better results. Use extreme caution in motion and avoid possible accident and danger.

CAPRICORN: (December 21 to January 18) Plan how to save more money instead of spending more than you can afford. Show others you have wisdom to handle any crisis which develops.

AQUARIUS: (January 19 to February 17) A time to be calm and serene while going after a personal aim. Be sure to use your money wisely at all times today so you will have some left.

PISCES: (February 18 to March 16) New interests are good for you now, so delve into them without delay. Quietly get things done in a sure and positive manner which is beneficial.

## THE Daily Crossword by James Barrick





## The more the merrier

By Jean-Claude Elias

Business is a healthy thing. It contributes to the quality of the products and services. The obvious winner of such a situation.

Private companies selling personal and related products in Jordan has up from a mere 10 in 1980. How is the computer market?

The population is estimated at 3.5 million, the part of this population that is in business is only about 0.5 million. There is one PC company (or shop) for

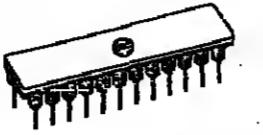
Though the comparison is not worth noting that there are only 100 Kingdom.

Computer distributors do not provide any service and assistance. They and offer a limited guarantee on the number of companies that do provide support, at both hardware and software

30. The most sophisticated machine the PC computer. Some 12-year-old in the computer more than their home use, professional service and specialised companies is therefore, at least, is not as important as for

such a large number of PC are available virtually all brands,

## chip talk



options and accessories in the Jordanian market. Tough competition is keeping prices very low and vendors must rely on volume sales to make an acceptable profit.

The Jordan Computer Society accepts both companies and individuals as members. They have to fulfill strict conditions in order to be accepted. Only one company in five has so far been accepted. The society was founded to improve communications at all levels: vendors-vendors, vendors-users, vendors-government and others.

If the number of PC companies per capita is an indicator of progress and prosperity, then Jordan is very well placed. It is the only Arab country (apart from Bahrain) that has developed software products that have become international standards.

If there are any negative side effects of the presence of a large number of PC distributors in Jordan, they must be very minor. In the long run, the situation can only develop as a very positive aspect of the country's progress.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuaib

### GOOD MORNING

#### Inspiring Advice

When you are suffering cannot. People who talk to you around that sometimes tell the reason of hostility. Do you feel inferior without your

do when you're bored: Boredom comes and goes. Living well. Use carefully.

that people who are bored are

invariably more exciting than If the real thing comes remotely to you. Sometimes, it is life itself.

\*\*\*\*\*

### CHAT IN ARABIC

What is a hand? Man yastati' musa'adati? Itch? Man faza hil-mobarat? The door? Man tarakal-bah? Who? Manit-tasala bee? Sister? Man arsala hazzib-rissala? D? Man akalat-ta'am? Room? Man kanas al-ghoria? Report? Man taba'at-takrir? Car? Man yastati' keyadit sayara? Now? Man hadaral-aa? Competition? Man wasala awwalan? To do this? Man kasaba musabakat assibak? To do that? Man tafala minka an tafala zalik? Is it? Man ahdara hazzil-hakeeba? Who? Man akhbaraka bizaik? When? Man tarakal-misbaha mudee'an?

### JOKES

How many fingers do you have?

What happens if you take three fingers? You have?" "Three lessons!"

\*\*\*\*\*

After romantic actress, Mary Doring, money for the poor and the others put the purse to one of the visitors for contribution.

"What am?" said the man.

"Money, sir, you can take this purse to some for those who need it!"

\*\*\*\*\*

It was when Rocky announced the engagement with Suzy. Being asked for their breakup the chap

is a cheat and a liar? Could you get a person who has proved all the time to be selfish and conceited?" replied his friend.

\*\*\*\*\*

"Janies, how's your husband?" "He's much better."

DOCTOR: "Where is he?"  
MRS. JAMES: "He died this morning!"

\*\*\*\*\*

### HOBBIES

#### Keeping pets

DOGS: You can buy a puppy from a friend whose dog has a litter, from advertisements in the newspapers, from a dog's home or from a pet shop. But do not buy a puppy on impulse. First of all decide the kind of dog you want. Bear in mind how large it will grow. It is no good to buy an appealing puppy with, say, a retriever in its ancestry, if you give it all the daily walks and exercise, it will need in a few months' time. Similarly, do not buy a sad-looking puppy you feel sorry for — be sensible and buy a lively one with a cold wet nose and alert clear eyes, like the Golden Cocker Spaniel opposite.

Puppies need a basket to sleep in out of draughts. It is best to have one with sides, raised off the ground. Put an old blanket inside for bedding. Other things you will need are a collar and lead, and separate bowls for its food and water. Other necessary items are a bath and especially if it is a long-haired puppy, a brush to keep his coat shining.

When you buy your puppy it will not be trained, especially where toilet habits are concerned, and you must be very patient, spreading newspapers for it placing it on them whenever it shows signs of mess. Eventually will be able to take it outside. Encourage it with kind words, which it will quickly recognise.

At first your puppy will require five meals a day, including plenty of moist food and occasional meat. At three months it should have three meals a day, with more meat. Always make sure it has plenty of fresh water.

\*\*\*\*\*

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

- What are the chief differences between plants and animals?
- What is the average life of: an ant, a camel, a cat, a lion, a rabbit, a sheep, a whale and a mouse?
- How are insects attracted to plants?
- Why does a flower, like a pansy, turn its face towards the sun?
- What animals are the following:
  - King of the beasts.
  - The king of the birds.
  - The lion's provider.
  - The light of the forest.

\*\*\*\*\*

### PUZZLES

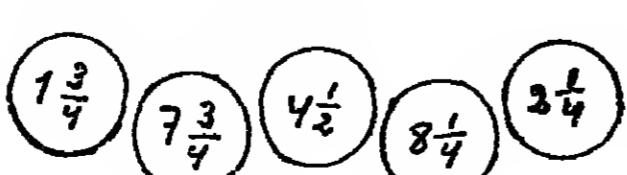
(A) WHAT IS IT?

- What saw never saw?
- What bow is never tied?
- What hole is never mended?

\*\*\*\*\*

(B) FRACTIONS

Which two fractions, when combined, will total the same as the remaining three?



## Classroom procedures and playing favourites

By E. Yaghi

Teaching is not only a science, it is also an art, and it involves more than just giving information. How to teach is almost as important as what to teach and the teacher, whether professor or instructor at a lower stage of learning, must meet the challenges presented by students, texts and classrooms. Classrooms must constitute a setting for learning and instructors must, first of all, have priorities and objectives for each lesson as well as come prepared. Traditional classroom procedure is for the teacher to ask questions to which he already knows the answers for pupils then to respond without creating new ideas. But teachers should not be the sole authority of knowledge nor should the student be unable to express his opinions or formulate creative and decisive ideas. If the teacher finds that an activity he has chosen does not suit or interest his class, then he should abandon it and move onward to something else. Once the class is over, the teacher should then ask himself if he achieved the objectives he intended and whether he covered the material he wanted.

Discipline, often a problem, can cause concern to the teaching staff. It is essential to a good learning environment as lack of order leads to confusion, hampers instruction and proves distracting. Thus, the teacher should arrange the seating of his class either in a semi-circle if smaller, or at least insist that the students are dispersed in the front rows, leaving the back benches empty unless the number of pupils happens to be greater. Though discipline is essential, the atmosphere in a classroom must be one that is conducive to learning and the instructor must maintain firmness, yet create a climate where friendliness and democracy prevail. Teachers should not do more than 25 per cent of the talking in class and the remaining 75 per cent should be done by pupils so that they have an opportunity to express themselves. Surprisingly, the student does not only learn from the teacher, but much is gained from fellow students and if the instructor gives himself half a chance, he will find that he too, has much to learn from his students. On this voyage of discovery, with the teacher more a guide than a commander, he will find that each student, especially the inquisitive young, have an inherent capacity to be brilliant in their own way. No teacher should be a dictator and stand in front of the class like the only one who knows anything about not only academic subjects but life in general. And most important, attention should be maintained throughout the lesson and pupils kept on their toes by constant stimulation and incentives to arouse interest. There is nothing more boring than a captain who talks 99 per cent of the allotted time, who allows no room for creative questions and whose word is law or part of the Ten Commandments. There must be discussions, debates, panel talks and

group-oriented workshops which promote coordinated activities. It is important for the teacher to be familiar with the attitudes and abilities of each student in order to organise teams into homogeneous groups.

Always, maximum participation should be sought and in any general discussion, every pupil should feel free to engage in it. Also, pupils should feel that taking part in classroom discussions is an important part of the day's lesson and any discussion should not be limited to a few students who may tend to dominate discourse. Some pupils try to gain the attention and praise of their instructors by holding the floor and digressing the topic concerned into a two-way dialogue in which the teacher is transfixed and other students become totally peeved and/or bored with the whole class.

This leads us to the notorious and unforgivable crime of favoritism. Some instructors form the obnoxious habit of playing favourites on the basis of ethnic, religious, or social grounds. Some pupils are always teacher's pet because their father or mother teaches in the same department and holds a senior position and therefore the child demands grades far higher than he/she deserves. I have often overheard such a pupil boast: "Oh, I didn't study a bit and I'm so afraid to take the exam!" Where in actuality, a high mark is earned because of the status of his/her father or mother. This is detrimental to the rest of the class, especially to those who work hard for grades but receive lower marks than the teacher's pet. Teacher's pet can be also based on ethnic or tribal relations where they are sometimes given better marks to keep up the prestige of the family name. Outsiders are looked down upon and never given a chance to compete for higher marks. Finally, the diplomatic student weaves his or her way into the instructor's good humour and is rewarded by higher marks. This sometimes happens with female students who flatter their professors or simply bat their beautiful eyes in coy ways and thus gain ten immediate points.

But playing favourites is had for both teachers and students. For the student who gets marks because of either ethnic or class status or lip service, in the end he or she will hold a diploma that is meaningless. And as for the instructor, how terrible to prejudge any student's performance on a biased attitude. Favoritism, wherever it is practiced, is harmful to the diligent and earnest student or even employee because instead of initiative and hard work false pretenses are rewarded. Often, in many institutions, creativity, curiosity and self-initiative are destroyed in favour of flattery, social status, or tribal or family name. Each person's value must be determined not by social, ethnic or tribal prejudices but by his/her output, attitude, effort and ability. Playing favourites is unfair and a flagrant violation of the ethics of teaching.

## JTV CHANNEL 2

### WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, June 23

8:30 Da Beat's On

9:15 Bony

Bony's case is that of a dead surfer found washed up on the beach. His suspicions centre around another surfer and a friend — a pretty young woman.

10:00 News In English

10:15 Murder She Wrote  
Dead Letter

A store owner dies in a fire a day after he receives a threatening letter.

Friday, June 24

8:00 Sixty Minutes

10:00 News In English

10:15 Emilie

Emilie is an ambitious young girl whose progressive ideas and beliefs stand contrary to her father's old-fashioned ways. Her struggle to win his acceptance and support starts in a small school, where she teaches the young.

Saturday, June 25

7:25 World Cup Soccer Match  
Saudi Arabia Vs. Morocco

9:20 Daily World Cup Summary

10:00 News In English

10:15 Reasonable Doubts

Making Dirt Stick

Even after delaying the case for three long years, Tess awaits the findings of the two main witnesses in a robbery and a murder case.

Sunday, June 26

7:25 World Cup Soccer Match  
Bulgaria Vs. Greece

9:30 You Bet Your Life

10:00 News In English

10:15 House Of Elliott

Agnes betrays the Elliott sisters' trust by divulging secrets to a newspaper man... While Evie and

Alexander get closer.

11:05 World Cup Soccer Match

Switzerland Vs. Colombia

Monday, June 27

8:30 The Nanny

The Nanny-In-Law  
Nanny finds herself face to face with Mr. Sheffield's old nanny.

9:10 Documentary — The Climate Change

10:00 News In English

10:15 G.P.

Loose Ends

William, the clinic's director, is surprised by his ex-wife's visit. He finds out about the bad news regarding their son-in-law.

11:05 World Cup Soccer Match

Bolivia Vs. Spain

Tuesday, June 28

7:25 World Cup Soccer Match

Italy Vs. Mexico

9:20 Daily World Cup Summary

10:00 News In English

10:15 The Cape Rebel

11:05 World Cup Soccer Match

Brazil Vs. Sweden

Wednesday, June 29

7:25 World Cup Soccer Match

Morocco Vs. Netherlands

9:20 Daily World Cup Summary

10:00 News In English

10:15 Poldark

Ross has always been the man who harbours the society's victims, but now he himself gets involved with some illegal deals.

11:05 World Cup Soccer Match

Ireland Vs. Norway

July 1 is 1st

## Artists, patrons differ on impact of Iraqi painters

By Ian Atalla

Special to the Jordan Times

YIMAN — It does not take an expert observer of local to perceive that over the recent years following the war, Iraqi artists have begun to dominate the fine scene in Jordan. A quick once-over of brochures exhibitions at the Kingdom's art galleries will quickly confirm gallery owners' estimates that Iraqi artists represent over half of those exhibiting works these days at various locations in Jordan.

One gallery owner who preferred anonymity said, "Jordanian artists are becoming a minority in our own country... as Iraqi artists continue to come in hundreds."

But as Iraqi artists continue to flock to Jordan to exhibit or stay on permanently — apparently seeking a refuge from a wave of poverty which has engulfed the artistic community in their homeland due to United Nations economic sanctions — is their exodus to Jordan a blessing or a curse for Jordan's native artists? Both artists and gallery patrons appear to be divided on the issue to that question.

The gallery owner who would not be named said that the Iraqis "have spoiled the market for Jordanian artists."

Initially, said the owner, members of Jordan's arts community had strongly sympathised with their Iraqi counterparts due to the financial hardships and sufferings they faced in Iraq. "But now, many Jordanian artists cannot stand to hear of Iraqi artists anymore."

Jordanian artist Suha Shoman sharply disagreed. "We should not have the reaction that other artists are intruders stealing our livelihood," she said. "This is looking at the problem with short-term vision."

"The school of art in Iraq is one of the oldest in the Arab World, while we in Jordan are a young artistic community," she said. "We have much to learn from them and others."

Artistic achievement and advancement can only be nourished by interchange and dialogue between different countries and cultures, Ms. Shoman maintained. Just as the French, who boast one of the world's finest artistic communities, had benefitted through exchange with Spanish artists such as Picasso, Dali and Miro, who came to France after World War II, and as the Iraqis and the Egyptians had learned from European art teachers, she said, now in turn "the Iraqis have opened new horizons for us, and if a Jordanian artist is good he shouldn't worry. It is a challenge. The important thing is the quality of the art."

The Iraqi artists who came to Jordan include some of the most prominent in Iraq, said Samia Zara, another Jordanian artist. "They have exposed us to contemporary directions, and really activated the art community here."

In concluding her defence of the Iraqi artists, Ms. Shoman stated her belief that "art knows no boundaries, and to judge an artist by his nationality is the opposite of what is art."

However, the gallery owner said the Iraqi artists are

hurting Jordanian artists by engaging in "cut-rate selling." Many of them, desperate for hard currency, are resorting to selling their works in Jordan at 10 to 20 per cent of their real value, or less, the owner said. "They aren't in their own country, so they don't have to worry about their reputation as the Jordanian artists do."

"And if you can buy a nice painting for only JD 10 to JD 20, why go to a Jordanian artist and buy a work of similar quality for JD 100 or more?"

Another gallery director who would also not be named said that he bore the Iraqi artists no ill will and only felt pity for their situation.

"Many were among the most famous of their time in Iraq before the war ruined things for them," the director said. "But now they are forced to come here and sell their works for little or nothing simply to feed themselves."

He concluded by saying that he was distressed that "something as innocent as art must fall prey to politics."

Iraqi artists are definitely not flocking to Amman because there are large profits to be had here, said Farouq Lambaz, Jordanian artist and director of the Alia Art Gallery. Rather, he said, Jordan is the only refuge open to them due to the current economic and political circumstances as the Iraqi dinar continues to crumble and no other Arab country besides Jordan is open to them.

"This rush of Iraqi artists — I don't think it is

because Jordan has high sales," Mr. Lambaz said. "It is a limited market, and no gallery is making a profit here."

Nuha Batchone, owner of the Gallery for Arts and Antiquities, agreed. Despite the opening of a large number of new galleries in Jordan over the last few years, she said, "the art market here is not profitable at all, and it is more difficult than ever before. As a gallery owner, it is a real challenge just to make both ends meet."

As for how to improve constricting circumstances for native Jordanian artists, one gallery director discounted blaming the Iraqi artists and focused the responsibility on the Jordanian public itself.

Jordanian artists do not meet enough care and respect from their own public, he said, "although the quality of work of many Jordanian artists can be compared to international standards."

Collectors here sometimes prefer the works of any foreign artist to Jordanians, although the public in most other countries would choose to buy their own artists' work before those of others."

Mr. Lambaz felt that just as artists in Europe and the United States receive badly needed aid and support programmes from the public sector of their countries, "someone in the Ministry of Culture must develop programmes for supporting the arts here."

Another gallery owner asked: "What can Jordanian artists do when their own community doesn't support them?"

## Mother Russia beckons for 70-year-old maestro

By Stephane Bentura  
Agence France Presse

WASHINGTON — World-renowned cellist and outspoken defender of democracy Mstislav Rostropovich is leaving Washington's biggest concert after a farewell concert, possibly to return to his much-changed homeland.

"After 70 years, you see how I act. If I turn, I will go to St. Petersburg, my heart is there," the 67-year-old Russian musician said in an interview in his office at the Kennedy Arts Center, where he conducts the National Symphony Orchestra.

On June 17, the orchestra which welcomed him years ago will host a farewell concert to Rostropovich, who played a major role in making the Washington Symphony one of the best in the United States. "When they deprived me of my homeland, I ended somewhere I could my own, a place that I could make the centre of my life," said Mr. Rostropovich, who taught in a Moscow conservatory until October 1974 when he was expelled and stripped



Mstislav Rostropovich

of his Soviet citizenship for defending dissident writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

Barred from returning to Moscow, Mr. Rostropovich and his wife soprano Galina Vishnevskaya agreed to come to Washington where he would direct the National Symphony.

"It was very important to feel at home and the more than 100 people in the orchestra became a huge family," he said.

He says it was the orchestra's poor condition that attracted him.

"One lives by creating things, it is very important," he said. "The orchestra has become one of the best in the United

States and has allowed me to understand America and to grow not only as a musician but also as a resident of this country."

Unlike Mr. Solzhenitsyn — to whom he is related — who tried to avoid becoming an American during his 18 years in exile in Vermont, Mr. Rostropovich speaks English perfectly and has scheduled concerts here as late as September 1997.

He has promised concerts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Boston and in France and Italy for next season.

Mr. Rostropovich hailed Mr. Solzhenitsyn's return to Russia, where he wrote his masterpieces, including *The Gulag*

Archipelago. "It is one of the happiest events of my life," he said.

The two men spent time together while living in the United States, with Mr. Rostropovich stopping by Mr. Solzhenitsyn's Vermont refuge between concerts for long talks about their homeland.

But if he is pleased that the 75-year-old writer returned home, Mr. Rostropovich said that he is more useful in the West from where he has made various trips into Russia in 1991 and 1993 to back a tottering democracy.

His foundation for Russian children has already collected \$4 million in donations in the form of

medicines and medical equipment. Last week, he gave two concerts in St. Petersburg to raise money to build 100 homes for Russian troops being withdrawn from the Baltics.

"They live in terrible conditions. These are the officers who won the war against fascism. I am in their debt," he said.

One thing he is worried about is the Russian mafia, which Mr. Rostropovich said is gaining strength.

"It's a question of time. The mafia is getting stronger and stronger, and it must be stopped now," he said.

Lively and warm, the Moscow-bred musician is in perfect health. But, he says, "I want to do only things that are useful to me because I don't know how many years God will give me."

"My country is always there and remains there," said Mr. Rostropovich, who has bought a country home and apartment in Moscow and is in the process of buying a home in St. Petersburg. And while his two daughters married an Italian and a Frenchman, their "five children have Russian names," he says slyly.

By Jacques Guillon  
Agence France Presse

NEW YORK — Some 30 groups and musicians will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Woodstock this August, but this time around a drug-free \$30-million production will replace the spontaneous three days of peace and love in 1969.

Unlike the first celebration — considered the high-water mark of the hippie movement and rock music — narcotics and alcohol are strictly prohibited from the festival's grounds.

Woodstock drew some 40 groups and musicians ranging from electric guitar innovator Jimi Hendrix to the British rock band The Who.

In 1969, from Aug. 15 to 18, roughly 500,000 people streamed to a rural upstate New York farm. Though promoters had sold 120,000 tickets — at \$18 each for the three days — the gathering built up its own momentum. Hundreds of thousands of people swarmed to Woodstock without tickets.

The concert unfolded in joyous anarchy, with massive traffic jams, loads of bashful, a little LSD, lots of love, food and service shortages, but no violence. Several babies were born during the festival and others were believed conceived during the three days.

For the anniversary concert, scheduled for the weekend of Aug. 13 in Saugerties, 170 kilometres north of New York City, promoters are selling only 250,000 tickets at \$135 each, organizer Michael Lang said.

The price includes a parking place, a camping spot and free shuttle transport. One thousand security guards will be on duty during the concert. Pay television will broadcast the event at a cost of \$50 for the weekend.

Factories are already cranking out souvenirs commemorating both this concert and the original Woodstock to glean the maximum profit from the show.

Although no list of musicians has been released, Crosby, Stills, and Nash — one of the groups appearing 25 years ago — will play. Organizers have approached Guns 'N' Roses, Metallica, the Red Hot Chili Peppers, and singer Peter Gabriel.

But the concert is not a sure bet to make money. Entrance costs are too stiff for many people and the festival is scheduled for the same weekend that the Rolling Stones play outside New York City.

What's more, a separate commemorative concert will take place on the same site as the original Woodstock in Bethel, New York.

Arranged by Sid Bernstein, the organizer of the first Beatles concert in the United States, the Bethel Concert has already signed up Woodstock veteran Richie Havens. The concert is expected to draw some 80,000 people.

Havens has become a strong supporter of this second show, which in spirit seems closer to the original. "What I want to back has nothing to do with what Michael Lang is putting together now," he said.

## 2 Korean films to vie in international festivals

Manmubang to join Montreal event; To The Starry Island in Switzerland

By Byun Eun-ki

YCAL filmmakers were stoked by the news that two Korean films have advanced into the main competitions of two international film festivals. According to the Motion Picture Promotion Corp. of Korea, Um Jong-Sun's saga about the Korean War *Manmubang* will enter in the 18th

World Film Festival in Montreal, Canada, which will open Aug. 25 for a 12-day run.

Also, Park Kwang-Soo's *To The Starry Island* will compete for top honours against films from other countries at the Locarno International Film Festival which is due Aug. 4-14 in Switzerland.

Many Korean films have been shown at various film festivals around the world, but those showings have been mostly on a noncompetitive basis and it is a major achievement for Korean films to advance into main competitions.

The news came following Chang Sun-Woo's winning of the Alfred-Bauer Prize for new perspectives in cinematographic art for his enigmatic Buddhist

film *Hwaomkyung* at the Berlin International Film Festival last February, which was amply celebrated here.

The entry of the two films into the competitions is a sign of the growing interest in Korean films abroad, said Yang Kyu-Shik, an official of the Motion Picture Promotion Corp., the government body promoting Korean

films.

As evidence, he said, "the chief executives of the two film festivals, Serge Losique of the Montreal and Marco Muller of the Locarno, have recently visited Seoul on separate occasions and selected the films themselves."

"The phenomenon is also influenced by the current worldwide trend that Oriental films are gaining more prominence," he added.

In particular, Park Kwang-Soo's entry into Locarno raises expectations here that it might duplicate the triumph that a maverick filmmaker, Bae Yong-Kyun, achieved five years ago. Bae's Buddhist film *Why Bodhi Dharma Went to the East?* won the best film award and four special awards at the competition.

Park, the forerunner of the new generation of Korean directors, has a previous association with the film festival. His social satire film *Chil-Su And Man-Su* was honoured with the third place award in the Youth Critics Award at the competition in 1989.

As for the Montreal competition, two Korean actresses, Shin Hye-Soo and Lee Hye-Sook won

the best actress awards in 1988 and 1991 respectively, and young talent Park Chong-Won's *Our Twisted Hero* captured the honour for the best producer in 1992.

Set during the Korean War (1950-53), the two films focus on how the fierce ideological conflict between the right and left wings affected the lives of ordinary Koreans. But, the paths the two films have trodden afterward were entirely different.

Park's *To The Starry Island* was much touted even before the film was made, largely owing to the reputation of the director. After its opening at local theatres last year-end with heavy publicity it won critical acclaim and scored a modest success at the box-office, even though it fell short of early expectations.

The film, however, was totally ignored at the just-ended Korean Grand Bell Film Competition, which prompted a protest by young filmmakers over the judges' favoritism of senior directors.

On the other hand, Um Jong-Sun's *Manmubang* drew little public attention until it won nominations at the film competition. *Manmubang* refers to a shameless villain in Korean



Yun Chung-Hee plays a woman victimised by ideological conflict during the Korean War in Um Jong-Sun's *Manmubang*. The film will be entered in the main competition at the World Film Festival in Montreal.

reputation with low-budget erotic films, it was the first time that his film has been nominated at the film competition.

*Manmubang* refers to a shameless villain in Korean

At the Grand Bell Film Awards, it won six prizes including the best actress award for Yun Chung-Hee — Korean News Review.

## Want to help them? Think measles shots, not food

By Michelle Faul  
The Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — When those skeletal waifs trapped in gory wars appear on the television screen, don't think only about food and U.N. peacekeepers. Think about vaccinations. Vitamin A and iodized salt.

That is the new and more pragmatic message from the world's leading ambassador for children, UNICEF Executive Director James Grant.

It is a lesson the U.N.

Children's Fund has learned from trying to cope with what it calls the world's "loud emergencies," the Bosnias, the Rwandas, the Angolas, that kill hundreds of children every day.

"We need to look at how to balance out the urgencies of the loud emergencies with the much larger dimensions of the silent emergencies," Mr. Grant said.

The principal killer of some 40,000 children whose lives are cut short every day is not war or

conflict-induced famine, but simple deficiency: Lack of cheap measles shot or a drink of salt, sugar and water to keep them from dying of diarrhoea.

In Africa, where about 10 per cent of the world's population suffers 30 per cent of its child deaths, many people have more children than they otherwise would so they can have backup children when some inevitably die.

"My father had 21 children and only nine of us survived," said Boubacar Ganame, a security guard

in Abidjan. "That's why we have to have lots of children, we're obliged to be sure that enough will live to bring in some money for the family and look after you when you're old."

Mr. Ganame, 47, has seven children ages 1 to 19. Though none has died, he still hopes for more. "I can't afford insurance or a pension. My children are my pension," he said.

Shifting the emphasis on aid — from intervention in a crisis to prevention of health problems — was a main topic of a

meeting of UNICEF Africa directors in early June.

"Our post-mortem on Somalia shows 250,000 children died in 1992, but most of them died from measles, not hunger," Mr. Grant told the gathering, noting that half of all preschool Somali children died in 1992-93.

The United Nations spent more than \$1.5 billion on military aid and peacekeeping to ensure that \$150 million in relief supplies was delivered, Mr. Grant said.

Less than a dollar a child spent earlier on vac-

cinations probably would have saved most of Somalia's child victims. A healthy, vaccinated child caught in a measles epidemic in a refugee camp will survive. Unvaccinated, malnourished children die.

"Many developed countries have an over-abundance of food stockpiles. As soon as there is a crisis and you show bloated bodies on TV, it's very easy for North America and Europe to divert their stocks to these countries," Mr. Christmas said. "Just making sure kids have Vitamin A could have saved 25 per cent of those

who died in Angola."

Mr. Grant and Mr. Christmas said it was easier for developed nations to respond to dramatic, conflict situations than "silent emergencies" such as the daily need for a balanced diet.

"Many developed countries are going to fall and we have to prepare ourselves for that, educate our donors against the world's belief that once a country has an emergency, there's going to be famine, so it's food that you send," he said.

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## African children targeted in new bid to contain AIDS

By Elaine Ganley  
The Associated Press

TUNIS — The World Health Organisation (WHO) has appealed to African leaders to take special steps toward preventing AIDS among children and young people, the most vulnerable group in the chain of infection

that spreads the disease. "We are convinced that political commitment is indispensable," WHO Director-General Hiroshi Nakajima said before the Organisation of African Unity's annual summit. Nearly two out of three

Africans who contract the HIV virus leading to AIDS are ages 15-24. About one million African children already have the disease, WHO estimates. By the year 2000, some four million African children will have been

orphaned by it.

Mr. Nakajima spoke to back a resolution on "AIDS And The Child In Africa," put on the summit agenda by host Tunisia. It urges action to protect children and women and would be carried out

by member states cooperating with the WHO.

The proposal calls the effect of AIDS on children, "one of the greatest challenges in recent history to development in Africa."

The devastation kills the young and makes orphans of others. There

is also "an emerging phenomenon" of children abandoned by HIV-positive mothers unable to cope and lacking community support, the re-

baby.

Not all children are infected through their mothers. The proposal notes a "trend" in several countries, showing young girls infected by men seeking uninfected partners. Street children are vulnerable to sexual exploitation and casual sex.

## Top Thai companies in wasteful AIDS discrimination

By Robert Birsel  
Reuter

BANGKOK — Some of Thailand's companies in business are practising a form of discrimination that is only unethical and inengaged of human rights. AIDS experts and virus carriers

say Thai companies discriminate and apply for the HIV virus. Some acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), they said, effectively denying a large section of society the right to work in a costly and difficult exercise.

"People with the virus have a lot of trouble finding work. When they apply for a job they are tested and then refused. It's the big factories and department stores that do this most," said a young

woman who identified herself by her nickname, Noo.

"The government has been very successful with its campaign to scare people about AIDS because everyone who knows I am HIV-positive is really frightened of me," said Noo's husband, who has managed to find a job with a small company which does not require HIV testing.

Thailand, where there are between 600,000 and 800,000 people infected with the HIV virus, has drawn up principles requiring that HIV testing be carried out only with the informed consent of the person being tested.

"There are also broad principles against discrimination on the grounds

dread the mandatory test, she said.

"These practices are causing enormous hardships (and are) denying a large section of Thai society the right to work."

Supanya Lamsam, a director of the Thailand Business Coalition on AIDS, said the screening policies adopted by companies — both Thai and foreign — were an instinctive, if irrational, reaction to the AIDS crisis.

Hospitals conducting the tests often give the results straight to the companies, he said.

"This not only goes against medical ethics, it goes against the principle of confidentiality," he said.

Many people with HIV have lost the will to look for work because they

panies, she said.

"It does not help, it does not keep HIV out of the work place. Also it is very expensive, and lastly it does not just not make business sense to do it," she said.

Companies which sacked employees or rejected applicants with HIV were turning away people who might remain productive for a decade or more.

"There are a lot of HIV-positive people out there who still can work, who can still be productive, who can still contribute to society and who can still look after their families and themselves," she said.

Testing programmes were very expensive, costing between \$40 and \$80 per test per employee, and would not stop the emergence of HIV in com-

Ms. Supanya, whose organisation aims to help businesses cope with AIDS, added that more

companies were becoming aware of the reality of the problem and adopting more constructive approaches.

One company which used to have an HIV screening programme but gave it up in favour of a staff education programme is Royal Garden Hotel

Resorts Co. Ltd., which employs more than 600 people.

"We had a policy to check for HIV but we gave it up. Education is the most important thing," said Royal Garden Human Resources Director Choochart Maha-

wan.

"If someone has HIV they are physically the same as anyone else, they have the ability to do the same work for maybe five or ten years," he told Reuters.

"We educate our staff not to be frightened, that HIV transmission is not easy. If other companies really knew the situation (regarding HIV) they would not be so scared," he said.

Mr. Choochart said he knew of several major hotel groups which had abandoned HIV screening policies for staff and applicants.

## Something must be done about headaches, say doctors

BRUSSELS (AFP) —

About 90 million Europeans are cursed with migraine or tension headaches which cost \$10 billion a year in treatment and time off from work, the European Headache Federation said here.

Yet research into headaches is seriously under-funded and is largely ignored in public sector budgets, the federation said at a press conference ahead of a three-day conference in the Belgian city of Liege which ended Friday.

Headache sufferers from Liege were invited into the conference to quiz the experts, said one of the organisers, Jean Schoenen, a neurologist at

the University of Liege.

Dieter Gerber, a professor at the University Clinic of Kiel, said there was a shortage of properly trained physicians and therapists in nearly all European countries.

Thus, a patient in

France might be told it was all right to drink high quality red wine, while in some other countries he might be advised to stick to white wine instead, Dr. Wilkinson said.

Doctors at the conference went out of their way to stress that a migraine — a blinding headache four times more prevalent in women than in men — was not a psychosomatic disease which could be treated by psychoanalysis.

They said it resulted from an abnormality of the brain and that attacks could be triggered by a range of factors including cheese, chocolate, alcohol, stress, smoking or even changes in sleeping habits or the weather.

Dr. Gerber said the brain of a typical migraine sufferer was hyperactive but lacked the energy reserves necessary to sustain this activity. "It's like a Ferrari engine running out of petrol," he said.

One useful tip from the Headache Federation: Migraines typically occur not during stress but during a vacation, for example. So take a short, pre-holiday rest before setting off on a journey.

## ANSWERS

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. The chief differences between plants and animals are:

(a) Most plants are stationary. On the other hand, most animals have ability to move from place to place.

(b) Animals have a limited scheme of growth, whereas plants have an unlimited one.

(c) Most plants have a structural framework composed chiefly of cellulose, a substance absent from the bodies of most animals.

(d) Animals are unable to manufacture foods and other complex substances from raw materials of air and soil, whereas plants can manufacture foods and other complex substances from them.

## PUZZLES

### (A) WHAT IS IT?

- (a) The see-saw.
- (b) The rainbow.
- (c) The keyhole.

4. It is necessary for the proper growth of a plant that sun's rays should reach its leaves, etc. Some plants require sunlight comparatively more than others. So in order to get as much of light as possible, they spread their leaves horizontally and their flowers face the sun. Moreover, several such plants require for their fertilisation insects and butterflies which like to sit with their wings spread in the sun. That is why these flowers have their faces towards the sun.

5. (a) The lion.

(b) The eagle.

(c) The jackal.

(d) The firefly.

6. It is necessary for the proper growth of a plant that sun's rays should reach its leaves, etc. Some plants require sunlight comparatively more than others. So in order to get as much of light as possible, they spread their leaves horizontally and their flowers face the sun. Moreover, several such plants require for their fertilisation insects and butterflies which like to sit with their wings spread in the sun. That is why these flowers have their faces towards the sun.

7. The lion.

8. The eagle.

9. The jackal.

10. The firefly.

11. The see-saw.

12. The rainbow.

13. The keyhole.

14. The sun.

15. The leaves.

16. The flowers.

17. The insects.

18. The butterflies.

19. The wings.

20. The sun.

21. The leaves.

22. The flowers.

23. The insects.

24. The butterflies.

25. The wings.

26. The sun.

27. The leaves.

28. The flowers.

29. The insects.

30. The butterflies.

31. The wings.

32. The sun.

33. The leaves.

34. The flowers.

35. The insects.

36. The butterflies.

37. The wings.

38. The sun.

39. The leaves.

40. The flowers.

41. The insects.

42. The butterflies.

43. The wings.

44. The sun.

45. The leaves.

46. The flowers.

47. The insects.

48. The butterflies.

49. The wings.

50. The sun.

51. The leaves.

52. The flowers.

53. The insects.

5

Financial Markets		Jordan Times		in co-operation with					
				Cairo Amman Bank					
<b>U.S. Dollar in International Markets</b>									
Date: 21/6/94									
Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close							
Sterling Pound	1.5415	1.5397							
Deutsche Mark	1.5943	1.5998							
Swiss Franc	1.3425	1.3478							
French Franc	5.4458	5.4735*							
Japanese Yen	100.34	100.65							
European Currency Unit	1.2040	1.1985*							
*USD per STG European opening & close rate USD									
<b>Eurocurrency Interest Rates</b>									
Date: 22/6/1994									
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS					
U.S. Dollar	4.0600	4.7500	4.8600	5.1200					
Sterling Pound	4.7500	4.9300	5.1800	5.6800					
Deutsche Mark	4.8100	4.8100	4.8100	5.0600					
Swiss Franc	3.9300	4.1200	4.5500	4.5000					
French Franc	5.5000	5.3700	5.5000	5.6700					
Japanese Yen	1.8700	1.9800	2.1200	2.7500					
European Currency Unit	5.8400	5.8700	5.9300	6.7500					
Interest rate for amounts over USD 1,000,000 or equivalent.									
<b>Precious Metals</b>									
Date: 22/6/1994									
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm				
Gold	393.25	7.10	Silver	5.52	0.125				
JD 1,000,000 or equivalent.									
<b>Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin</b>									
Date: 22/6/1994									
Currency	Bid	Offer							
U.S. Dollar	0.6900	0.6950							
Sterling Pound	1.0600	1.0654							
Deutsche Mark	0.4505	0.4525							
Swiss Franc	0.5111	0.5137							
French Franc	0.1259	0.1265							
Japanese Yen	0.6825	0.6759							
Dutch Guilder	0.3840	0.3859							

## Singapore airlines in \$10b deal with Boeing, Airbus

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Singapore Airlines (SIA) Wednesday announced orders for 52 Boeing and Airbus aircraft, including options, worth \$10.3 billion in one of the largest deals in civil aviation history.

SIA Chairman J.Y. Pillay said the purchase would help the airline, among the world's most successful, meet targeted growth of eight to 10 per cent a year over the next 10 years.

The current orders will provide the necessary capacity to fulfill that objective," an SIA statement said.

Mr. Pillay told a news conference the deal involved firm orders for 11 Boeing 747-400 and options for 11 others, together worth \$4.9 billion. There were firm orders for 10 Airbus A340-300E aircraft and options for 20 more worth \$5.4 billion. The B747-400 would be powered by Pratt and Whitney PW 4066 engines and the A340-300E by CFM56-5C4 engines. The \$10.3 billion total price tag includes spares and spare engines.

If all options are exercised, the Singapore carrier will have a fleet of 111 aircraft by the year 2003, when deliveries are to be completed. The airline now operates 63 aircraft.

"We expect to be able to self-finance the purchase of the firm orders and the aircraft under option, although we may occasionally have to resort to borrowing from the market for short periods," Mr. Pillay said.

Mr. Pillay said the industry had gone through some difficult periods and turbulence, but there were signs that it was now emerging from the worst times of depressed yields and lower load factors.

SIA managing director Cheong Chong Kong said the order "is an expression of our faith in the long-term health of the aviation industry and the promising future for SIA."

A spokesman for Airbus Industrie described the deal as "particularly important" because SIA was known to set standards by which other airlines are judged.

"The airline industry has been going through recession, so this sends an important message to the rest of the industry that the bad times, we hope, are behind us and the good times on their way," the spokesman told AFP.

The SIA order for 10 Airbus planes and options for 20 more will make the Singapore carrier Airbus Industrie's biggest customer, he said.

Mr. Pillay said the deal cancelled options already held by SIA for 15 Boeing 747s and 13 A340 aircraft.



Swedish Krona	Bid	Offer
0.0436	0.0436	
0.0436	0.0436	

Per 100

Other Currencies	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8150	1.8270
Lebanese Lira	0.040500	0.041730
Saudi Riyal	0.1657	0.1685
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3250	2.3650
Qatari Riyal	0.1675	0.1685
Egyptian Pound	0.2010	0.2250
Oman Riyal	1.7750	1.7890
UAE Dirham	0.1875	0.1885
Greek Drachma	0.2600	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3310	1.3480

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## Russia signs partnership pact

BRUSSELS (R) — Russia signed NATO's partnership for peace Wednesday and, proclaiming that it could do business with the West, sealed an agreement on broader cooperation hailed as vital to post-cold war security in Europe.

Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev signed the partnership scheme on closer military links with the alliance at NATO headquarters, putting an end to recent disputes between the two sides on issues ranging from Bosnia to arms control.

Following bitter complaints from Moscow that NATO was ignoring its big power status, the two former arch-foes have also agreed a framework for broader political ties which go beyond military cooperation.

Mr. Kozyrev told a meeting of alliance ambassadors and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher that cooperation with NATO was not without problems. There had been a lack of coordination and some unwillingness to change old stereotypes. But he added:

"Let me state with full certainty... there are no insurmountable obstacles on the way to shaping a workable relationship between Russia and its Western partners."

"Today, we take one more step in the direction of strengthening relations between Russia and NATO and in the search for new formulas to secure common European stability and security," Mr. Kozyrev told the meeting.

"This is a defining moment in shaping the security of our continent," said NATO Deputy Secretary-General Sergio Balanzino. "There will only be stability in Europe with and not against Russia."

But he made clear that NATO would retain its independence.

There could be no question of giving Russia any veto over alliance decisions or of dividing Europe into spheres of influence, as happened after the 1945 Yalta agreement between the World War II allies.

"Such a relationship has nothing to do with some kinds of NATO-Russian condominium or 'Yalta two,'" Mr. Balanzino said.

Mr. Kozyrev agreed. "This is not a 'Yalta two' but a 'Brussels one,'" he said.

Mr. Balanzino said new ties between Russia and NATO had to help build confidence throughout Europe. His remarks were clearly intended to reassure Moscow's former satellites.

Countries like Poland and Hungary want to join the alliance despite Russian opposition and fear they could be shut out of a special relationship between NATO and Russia. The alliance has promised to take on new members at some point in the future.

Mr. Balanzino and Mr. Christopher, the only alliance foreign minister to attend the signing, said good relations between NATO and Russia would also serve the interests of those countries.

The broader relationship with Russia would not be

kept secret from other former cold war enemies that have now become partners, Mr. Balanzino said. NATO would share information with Russia and consult it "on issues of common concern."

A separate joint declaration to be published Wednesday sets out the principles that broader cooperation, recognizing Russia's status as a major power.

"Today... we take a major step toward building the bonds of cooperation that can secure the peace of a broader Europe," Mr. Christopher told the meeting.

Moscow, which postponed signing the partnership for peace in April, has been pressing for special political ties with NATO. But the alliance has insisted on setting clear limits on how far it could go in setting up special ties with Russia.

Russia is the 21st country to sign the partnership, on offer to all former Soviet Bloc states and some other nations. It provides for joint military training, exercises and defence planning but offers no security guarantees.

Russia told NATO Wednesday that it accepted the principle of alliance expansion to take in Eastern Europe but said it should not be done soon, NATO sources said.

Mr. Kozyrev told allied ambassadors that Russia could still be interested in joining — but after Eastern European states. Russia has said before it wants to join NATO.

"His tone was very conciliatory and he accepted the

principle of NATO expansion," said one alliance source, who asked not to be identified. "We were delighted."

Mr. Kozyrev told the meeting that the partnership scheme should be given time to work before the 16-nation alliance expanded.

Germany Wednesday greeted Moscow's signing of NATO's partnership for peace scheme as an important "historical milestone" that would ensure peace in Europe.

Defence Minister Volker Rueste said the signing transferred stability eastwards through well-balanced cooperation and integration.

"I welcome the success of all those involved as a historical milestone in a process that gives Europe more stability and thereby ensures peace," he said.

Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said Russia had to be fully integrated into the construction of new security structures in Europe and added that Moscow would bring its rich experience and deep commitment into the partnership.

"In view of its size, geographical position, population and military potential, Russia plays an exceptionally significant role in European security and stability," he said.

"A constructive relationship between NATO and Russia — even beyond the partnership itself — is a necessary complement," he added in his statement issued in Bonn after Mr. Kozyrev signed the scheme for closer military links with the West in Brussels.

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**FAKES GO UP IN SMOKE:** Luxury T-shirts and leather handbags sporting fake labels went up in flames on Tuesday as French Budget Minister Nicolas Sarkozy watched over the public burning of 1,000 counterfeit items at a Paris airport. Members of prestigious French luxury goods firms such as Hermès, Cartier, Dior, Cardin, Lacoste, Chanel and Vuitton looked on at Orly Airport as customs officers torched piles of seized counterfeit items while bulldozers crushed

mounds of watches. Mr. Sarkozy, keen to protect the country's powerful luxury goods sector, ushered in tough new legislation last February making counterfeiters liable to smuggling charges in the country. The French say seven out of every 10 counterfeit items is a copy of a French-made product. The photograph shows firemen dousing gasoline over counterfeit luxury clothes before burning them at Orly Airport, outside Paris (AFP photo)

## U.S., Russia to discuss Bosnian peace as battles continue

SARAJEVO (R) — U.S.

and Russian ministers met to complete a peace plan for battered Bosnia Wednesday, amid infantry and artillery fire in a central war zone, a U.N. spokesman said.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher told reporters travelling with him to a NATO meeting in Brussels that agreement on details of a big power peace plan for Bosnia was very close.

Mr. Christopher met Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev to discuss the plan, worked out by diplomats from Britain, France, the United States, Germany and Russia.

The major power initiative is expected to propose a 51-49 ethnic split of Bosnia between a Muslim and Croat federation and their Serb foes.

Mr. Christopher and Mr. Kozyrev are due to discuss the results of their talks, which also focused on North Korea's suspected secret weapons programme, later at a news conference.

Mr. Chernomyrdin was to finalise agreements on cooperation in oil exploration and space cooperation, but his visit was also seen as a sign of his growing importance in Moscow as the number two to President Boris Yeltsin.

"Chernomyrdin is running the government day to day," one senior U.S. administration official said. "Yeltsin is the leader of the country is involved in foreign policy issues but not as much perhaps in day to day government as he once was."

In the first of two days of talks planned between the Russian premier and Vice President Al Gore — they chair a bilateral commission exploring opportunities for trade and other forms of cooperation, both men met late Tuesday at the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum.

After shaking hands before a replica of the superpowers' Apollo-Soyuz space ships that linked up in space in 1975, Mr. Gore stressed that the U.S.-Russian partnership in space would "benefit the world, not just the United States and Russia."

"There are more important real benefits for each country, not only in terms of technology, but also in terms of bridges of understanding that develop when we work toward common goals," Mr. Gore said.

The two leaders then attended the premier of *Destiny in Space*, a 40-minute film with Views of Venus and Mars, footage from nine shuttle missions and from the Russian orbiting Mir space station, all viewed on the Air and Space Museum's giant, 23-by-15 metre (75-by-50 foot) screen.

The exact date of the presidential summit, which will last two to three days, will be decided at the Group of Seven meeting of leaders of the major industrialised countries in Naples, Italy in July, a U.S. administration official said.

President Bill Clinton and Mr. Yeltsin, who will meet at the G-7 meeting, have already held two summits, one in Vancouver, Canada, last year and one in Moscow in January.

Russia has long been pressuring for membership in the G-7, which groups the world's leading industrial countries. But the U.S. official said allowing Moscow into the club was not imminent.

Prominent Janata Dal Deputy George Fernandes told reporters the breakaway group regarded itself as the "real Janata Dal," and claimed support from all levels of the party nationwide.

encourage acceptance.

on their movement by both

Bosnian Serb sources have said 5,000 Serb civilians have left their homes on the Ozren frontlines in the face of a Muslim advance that has captured

three villages.

The U.N. has refused to confirm that a major Muslim ground assault is under way. Officials said an artillery spotting radar had been moved to the region from nearby Tuzla in the hope of clarifying the situation.

The Bosnian Serb leadership has for some days accused the Bosnian army of attacking Serb-held villages near a strategic road linking Ribnica and Zavidovici, south of Mount Ozren and has threatened a "massive counter-offensive."

The road cuts across a long finger of mountainous terrain under Serb control but surrounded on three sides by forces of the Bosnian government.

Maj. Annink said there had been an artillery and tank fire exchange near government-held Zavidovici Tuesday. He described it as a Serb response to a perceived but unconfirmed Muslim assault.

Both sides in the Bosnian conflict have raised considerable objections to the deal, which also focused on North Korea's suspected secret weapons programme, later at a news conference.

European diplomats say foreign ministers of the five nations have provisionally agreed to meet on July 1 and 2 to sign off on the proposals, which will then be presented to the Bosnian factions with a "take it or leave it" ultimatum.

Both sides in the Bosnian conflict have raised considerable objections to the deal, which also focused on North Korea's suspected secret weapons programme, later at a news conference.

The U.N. has said its ability to verify the claims of either side is hampered by a limited number of personnel in the remote Ozren region and severe restrictions placed

on their movement by both

At Elvis auction, even guitar pick costs \$800

LAS VEGAS (AP) — If it belonged to Elvis Presley, it has to be expensive. Even his chipped guitar pick cost \$800 at an auction at the Las Vegas Hilton. Other items sold Saturday to fans and collectors included Elvis' personal guitar, \$30,000; his inspired American Express card, \$36,000 and his birth certificate, \$60,000. "At this rate, I couldn't even afford one of his shoes," said Morris Lyon, a New Yorker who brought \$600 and walked away with nothing. Other items included the king's sequined jumpsuit, jewels and a Mercedes limousine with six doors. About 2,000 people attended the auction at the hotel where Elvis appeared in \$700 sold-out concerts before his death in 1977. The auction featured the collection of Jimmy Velvet, former recording artist and friend of Elvis. He spent 20 years collecting about 600 items. "I'm not getting any younger, so it's either store it or sell it," Mr. Velvet said. "I think it's best to put it in the hands of others who loved Elvis too."

**'A' plate sells for record price**

AUCKLAND (AP) — A number plate bearing the single letter A has sold at auction for a New Zealand record of 277,875 NZ dollars (\$164,182), the New Zealand Herald reported Wednesday. It beat the previous record price of NZ dollars 191,000 paid for the plate bearing the letter U set earlier this month. The A plate was previously sold at auction in May 1989 for NZ dollars 5,000. Personalised Plates Director Murray Thom said the plate was put up by the estate of the original purchaser. He described the new owner as an Auckland businessman and plate collector who emigrated from Europe.

**Wake up call of a lifetime**

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — Lisa Billingsley awoke in the middle of the night and heard a hiss. She jumped back into bed and told companion Eddie Donald there was something on the floor. Donald turned on the light, looked down, turned the light back off and jumped back into bed. That something was an 18-foot (6-metre) long boa constrictor. "I didn't even tell her what it was," Donald said. "I just said, 'we've got to get out of here.'" The snake, a boa constrictor about 18 inches (45 cm) in diameter, had pushed back their window screen and slid inside early Monday. It took six police officers and a Humane Society officer to carry the 120-pound (54-kilogram) creature out of the couple's house. It was "one of the biggest things I've ever seen," said Humane Society officer Julie Young. She said the society frequently gets reports of 15-foot (5-metre) long snakes spotted in back yards, but they are usually garden snakes. "I thought, 'for once, they got the report right,'" she said. Police do not know where the snake came from. Boa constrictors are not native to the area.

**Slovak women drugged 40 men**

VIENNA (R) — Two Slovak women named Maria and Magdalena have confessed to robbing 40 men in Vienna after inviting them to bed and administering knock-out drops, police said. The dodge had been going on for two years until one of the victims recognised the pair in a Vienna bar last week. Police said they were also looking for two more Slovak girls calling themselves Jana and Vicki, who apparently used the same methods. Victims have been assured of police discretion if they provide further information.

**Thai police arrest Norwegian robbery suspect**

BANGKOK (AP) — Thai police have arrested a Norwegian man who allegedly fled to a Thai seaside resort in his home country, a police official said here Wednesday. Divind Reive, 32, was found Tuesday in a Pattaya hotel, 81 kilometers (50 miles) southeast of Bangkok, according to police Colonel Yuthsaboon Dissanay. He is wanted for the June 3 theft of 74,000 kroner (\$10,300) from the Time Spar Bank.

Others could also be involved with the leftist Samawadi Party, which broke away from the Janata Dal before the 1991 elections.

## 2 Cambodian ministers threaten to quit over move to outlaw Khmer Rouge

PHNOM PENH (R) — Finance Minister Sam Rainsy will join Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivudh in threatening to resign if the government goes ahead with a motion to outlaw Cambodia's radical Khmer Rouge, a Finance Ministry official said Wednesday.

Their concern has been shared by fellow Socialists in the Belgian coalition led by Christian Democrat Jean-Luc Dehaene, one of three main candidates in the contest at the two-day summit opening Friday.

Mr. Dehaene is backed by Germany and France, the countries past Italian government traditionally fol-

lowed on EU policy.

This time could be different, with the Italians making clear they would like a decision on the succession put off and saying publicly that they have not made up their minds whom to support.

"The matter is of utmost importance and should not be resolved in a hurry," Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Martino said Tuesday.

"That is the sense of the recent contacts the prime minister and I have had with representatives of our partners," he said.

The other main candidates are outgoing Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, like Mr. Dehaene a Christian Democrat, and Britain's Sir Leon Brittan, the current trade commissioner.

France, Germany and Greece have all made clear they want the issue wrapped up in Corfu rather than delayed for a special summit later this year as Italian officials have suggested.

Mr. Martino said Italy would use corfu to voice dissatisfaction with its milk quotas, an issue that could hold up the EU budget, and its belief that "certain common policies should be better aligned to the rules of the market."

Mr. Berlusconi's free market vision has pleased Britain, which now sees Italy as a potential ally in its opposition to EU social legislation and what it deems unnecessary regulation.

British Prime Minister John Major's Conservative government has said it has no qualms about dealing with the Italian coalition since all its partners, including the National Alliance, were democratically elected and appointed.

Both sides in the Belgian coalition are threatening to quit if the government goes ahead with a motion to outlaw the Khmer Rouge.

Steng Lapresse said he believed the motion to outlaw

the guerrillas would get a majority vote in parliament.

Meanwhile a government amnesty programme for Khmer Rouge defectors is losing appeal with guerrillas and numbers are declining sharply, former guerrillas said Wednesday.

Mr. Chernomyrdin was to finalise agreements on cooperation in oil exploration and space cooperation, but his visit was also seen as a sign of his growing importance in Moscow as the number two to President Boris Yeltsin.

"Chernomyrdin is running the government day to day," one senior U.S. administration official said. "Yeltsin is the leader of the country is involved in foreign policy issues but not as much perhaps in day to day government as he once was."

In the first of two days of talks planned between the Russian premier and Vice President Al Gore — they chair a bilateral commission exploring opportunities for trade and other forms of cooperation, both men met late Tuesday at the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum.



## Great start to Nigeria as they beat Bulgaria 3-0

3-0

DALLAS, Texas (AFP) — Nigeria's World Cup adventure got off to a spectacular start when they overcame hapless Bulgaria 3-0 in their opening Group D match here Tuesday evening.

It was a perfect debut for the African champions who had promised they would be the surprise team of the tournament.

Nigeria's fast-running front line proved too much for Bulgaria who are in their sixth appearance in the World Cup finals and have still to win a match.

After a shaky start Nigeria began to settle down and in the 20th minute George Finidi broke down the right, cut into the area and his cross found Rashidi Yekini alone in front of the Bulgarian goal for the simplest finish.

Three minutes before half time Yekini turned provider when he crossed from the right, Daniel Amokachi



Nigerian forward Rashidi Yekini (R) attempts to steal the ball from Bulgarian defender Peter Bozhichev during their World Cup match at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas Tuesday. Yekini scored one of his team's three goals as Nigeria defeated Bulgaria 3-0 (AFP photo)

broke free from his marker in the area, took the ball to the left and fired home a left-footed shot.

The icing on the cake came 11 minutes into the second half when Finidi again broke free on the right with his blistering speed. His far-post cross was met by a diving Emmanuel Amunike whose header gave goalkeeper and captain Borislav Mikhailov no chance.

But Bulgaria had every reason to feel unlucky in reaching half time two goals down. They were the more relaxed right from the kick-off and quickly posed problems for Nigeria's suspect defence.

After only 10 minutes Bulgaria's Barcelona striker Hristo Stoichkov set Emili Kostadinov free and only a great save by Mikhailov, who palmed the ball away for a corner, prevented Bulgaria from going four down.

Yekini was fortunate not to fall further behind four minutes from the break when Amunike crashed a shot

certain goal.

Less than a minute later it was Kostadinov again. This time he was free on the right but his cross to a lurking Stoichkov was cut off by Rufai.

The Nigerian defence continued to have problems with the Bulgarian attack in the first half. After 30 minutes Emili Kremeniev, on the right, crossed to the far post where Stoichkov headed to Yordan Letchkov, but he squandered the chance with the ball coming back off Rufai.

Bulgaria continued to press forward for the rest of the half. Stoichkov even had the ball in the net with a blistering 30-yard free kick but the effort was disallowed because it was supposed to be indirect.

Yet they were fortunate not to fall further behind four minutes from the break when Amunike crashed a shot

against the inside of the post.

In the second half the Nigerians, clearly bolstered by their two-goal lead, threatened to run amok with the Bulgarian defence stretched to the full. Desperately pushing forward to try and pull back a goal, Bulgaria left gaping holes at the back which was perfect for Nigeria's speed attack.

Mutin Adepoju, who came on for Samson Siasia in the 66th minute, nearly scored with his first touch of the ball a minute later. Only a great save by Mikhailov, who palmed the ball away for a corner, prevented Bulgaria from going four down.

The Bulgarian attack, despite all their efforts, had more or less run out of steam.

With the humid Texan heat, even Stoichkov, in doubt before the match because of a hamstring injury, made no impression in the second half.

"I am very happy that we managed to come back after trailing and clinch a draw against a very strong Spanish side," said German coach Berti Vogts.

"They played very well in the first half, they had many chances," Vogts said. "I expect better performances from us in the next games."

Spain beat Germany 1-0 June 20, 1984, at the European Championships in France, preventing the Germans from advancing to the second round.

Coach Jupp Derwall was sacked on the spot and Franz Beckenbauer was brought in to rescue German soccer.

His mission was completed with the 1990 World Cup title in Italy, and Vogts, his assistant, took over.

Spain played without sweeper Miguel Angel Nadal, who was suspended for two games after being expelled in the opener.

The Spanish goal climaxed a period of early pressure, with Spain in command with dangerous runs on the wings.

Goikoetxea seemed to want to cross from the right, Illgner took a few steps out

## Klinsmann saves Germany with equaliser

CHICAGO (AP) — Ten years ago nearly to the day, Spain embarrassed Germany with a defeat that sent German soccer into a turmoil. Tuesday in Chicago, Germany had Jürgen Klinsmann

anticipating a floating cross, but the ball instead curled inside over Illgner's finger tips, hit the inside of the far post and bounced into the net.

"I intended to cross, but I got lucky," Goikoetxea said.

Even before the goal, Spain had chances. In the 10th minute, Barjuan Sergi burst through on the left past four German defenders in to the box, but Illgner made a brilliant save by knocking his right-foot shot into the corner.

Three minutes later, Illgner stopped a long-range drive by Josef Guardiola.

The Germans came out of the locker rooms blazing away and it took only three minutes from them to equalise.

Haessler floated a high cross from the right from a free kick to the far post. Klinsmann rose over two Spanish defenders and thumped the ball hard. It bounced off the ground into the net for his second goal of the tournament.

The German offensive continued and it was Klinsmann again, this time with a flying header off another Haessler cross that threatened the Spanish goal. This time Zubiz

arreta made a fine save.

In the 61st minute, German coach Berti Vogts made a substitution greeted by loud cheers from German fans. Rudi Voeller, the 34-year-old striker recalled from national team retirement before the World Cup, came in for Moeller.

Only minutes later Voeller made his presence felt. He fed Klinsmann inside the area with a short pass. Klinsmann let loose with a powerful right-foot drive that went high.

Spain replied quickly, but Jose Luis Caminero twice missed the ball. Hierro then nearly scored on the far post when his shot went through Illgner's legs but rolled along the line and out.

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### Thursday matches

Group C: Italy vs. Norway in New York at 23:00 Amman time.

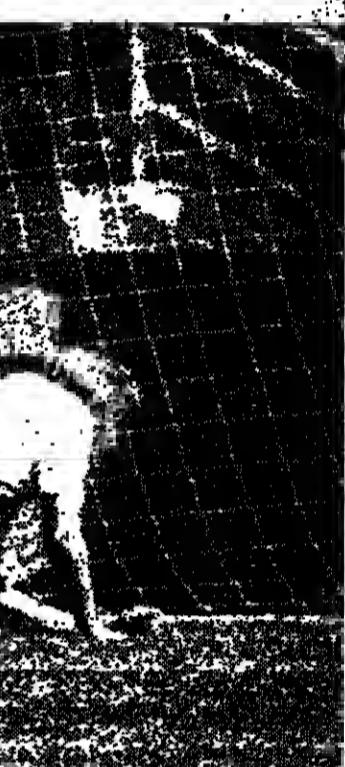
Group C: South Korea vs. Bolivia in Boston at 02:30 (Friday) Amman time.

### Friday matches

Group C: Mexico vs. Ireland in Orlando at 19:30 Amman time.

Group B: Brazil vs. Cameroon in San Francisco at 23:00 Amman time.

Group B: Sweden vs. Russia in Detroit at 02:30 (Saturday) Amman time.



Spain's goalie Andoni Zubizarreta (L) falls after failing to block a shot by Germany's Stefan Effenberg (R) follows the ball into the net Tuesday at Soldier Field in Chicago (AFP photo)

## Van Basten fears injury may end career

ANTWERP, Belgium (R) — Dutch striker Marco Van Basten said Tuesday he feared his playing days could be over after being told he needed another operation on his injured ankle.

The AC Milan star, forced to miss the World Cup because of the injury which has sidelined him for most of the

past 18 months, admitted he had doubts about ever returning to competitive soccer.

Asked whether his playing days might be over, he said: "Yes, there is a chance."

His Belgian surgeon Marc Martens told a news conference Van Basten needed a new operation which would

delay his return to competition by at least another six months.

"One year after the surgery we feel that by further conservative treatment, further wait and see ... it will not be enough to get him back on the field," Martens said.

"That's why I propose to do some additional surgery to the ankle to facilitate healing, to promote healing of the cartilage."

"If we do this, it will imply six more months of inactivity ... minimum six months," he said.

Van Basten said he would consult AC Milan before deciding on the operation.

Martens said he had told Van Basten he had a return to top competition was possible.

"But the chance is not very high," Martens said. "I've got my doubts. I also hope because otherwise I would not have proposed this surgery," he said.

Van Basten had an initial operation on the ankle in December 1992.

He came back for three matches, including the May 1993 European Cup final and then had a second operation a few weeks after that match.

After Saturday's 1-0 loss to Ireland, a second defeat in Group E against Norway will leave Arrigo Sacchi's squad scrabbling to avoid a humiliating early flight home.

"Time is running out for us in this World Cup," Sacchi acknowledged. "We have left ourselves no room for error."

The Italian coach, bombarded with criticism in the aftermath of the Irish defeat, expects another tough battle with the well-organised.



Marco Van Basten

## Italians are only ninety minutes from nightmare

NEW YORK (AP) — Italy's American dream could be transformed into a World Cup nightmare in the space of 90 minutes at Giants Stadium Thursday.

After Saturday's 1-0 loss to Ireland, a second defeat in Group E against Norway will leave Arrigo Sacchi's squad scrabbling to avoid a humiliating early flight home.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Three changes likely for Mexico

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Mexico are likely to make three changes to the team to take on Group E surprise Ireland here Friday with Alberto Garcia Aspe, Carlos Hermosillo and Marcelino Bernal earning the starting nod. Midfielder Bernal came on as a substitute in the 1-0 defeat to Norway. He is expected to start while Raul Gutierrez stays on the bench. Garcia Aspe, who has completed a one-match ban, will replace Luis Garcia in midfield and Hermosillo will replace Luis Valdes in attack. Veteran Hugo Sanchez says he has recovered from a slight thigh strain.

### Norway newspaper's Cup gamble

OSLO (AFP) — Norway's largest evening paper Verdens Gang (VG) bet 660,000 kroner (\$94,285) here Wednesday on the Norwegian World Cup football team reaching the World Cup finals. VG placed the bet at 12-1 odds — which could earn it a pay-out of eight million kroner (\$1.14 million).

### Korean workers plan Cup strike

SEOUL (AFP) — Around 25,000 South Korean workers plan a three-hour strike Friday — at the same time as South Korea play Bolivia in the World Cup. The workers at Hyundai Heavy Industries in the southern city of Ulsan said they would need three hours to vote on whether to go on a longer walkout over pay demands. South Korea came to a virtual standstill Saturday when its team drew 2-2 with Spain.

### Millwall gets suspended penalties

LONDON (AP) — The Millwall soccer club was found guilty Tuesday of failing to control its fans at last month's promotional playoff game against Derby, but it escaped with suspended penalties from the Football Association (FA). The team was told it would have to play two home matches behind closed doors and face a £100,000 (\$150,000) fine — but both sanctions were suspended for the next two seasons. Three league points were also deducted, but again the penalty was suspended — this time until the end of December. FA spokesman David Bloomfield said the suspended sentences would be imposed, in part or in full, in the event of serious misconduct involving Millwall or its fans, either at home or away. Seven people were injured and 16 arrested in fan violence at the May 18 playoff semifinal game at Millwall's ground. Twice, fans ran onto the field during the game, threatening.

### Japan's premier honours Zico

TOKYO (R) — Brazilian soccer legend Zico was honoured by Japan's prime minister Wednesday for his contribution to establishing the country's professional soccer league. In a ceremony at his official residence, Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata gave the 41-year-old veteran a testimonial and a deer skin ball used in "kemari," a form of football enjoyed by nobles in ancient Japan, a spokeswoman at the prime minister's office said. Last week Zico, whose full name is Arthur Antunes Coimbra, ended his long professional career in triumph, scoring his 817th goal and setting up another to give his Japanese club Kashima Antlers a 2-1 victory. Alongside former England soccer captain Gary Lineker, Zico was one of the big names imported for the establishment of Japan's professional league last May. He is the first foreign soccer player to win official recognition for his services. Media reports said Zico was planning to return to Brazil to set up a soccer school.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH HIRSCH  
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#### THERE'S A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Both vulnerable, North deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ K Q 6  
A K J 9  
A J 8 3  
♦ Q 6

**WEST**      **EAST**

♦ J 9 7 3      ♦ 10 4  
5 2      Q 7 9 3  
10 6 5 2      9 4  
♦ 8 4 2      ♦ K 8 7 5 3

**SOUTH**

♦ A 8 5 2  
10 8 4  
K Q 7  
♦ A J 10

The bidding:

North East South West

1 Pass 2 NT Pass

6 NT Pass Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 6

There are two stages to successful play: First, spot the different possibilities for your contract. Next, plan to make use of as many of them as possible. Consider this deal from an expert when bidding judgment, and conventions, ruled the day.

North-South reached an excellent contract of 6 NT with the bidding of ♦ 6. South then expressed the weak four-card major in favor of showing a balanced 13-15 and North applied simple arithmetic.

It's reached the conclusion that slam would have good play.

After a diamond lead declarer can count 10 fast tricks and a sure 11 in hearts or clubs. What possibilities are there for the 12th?

There are three winning finesses in either hearts or clubs, or a 3-3 break in spades, but what would they be tried?

At the moment declarer elected to win the first trick in hand and try the heart finesse. That lost to East, who cleverly shifted to a club. Rather than bank everything on the finesse, declarer chose to rise with the ace and hope for a even a spade split or a squeeze. Down one.

Since declarer cannot afford to set up a spade trick to the enemy and the club finesse is even, he'll bank on the heart finesse. That allows declarer to try all three finesse and land the slam. If any one of them produces an extra trick.

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## FIFA finds plastic solution for drinks

DALLAS, Texas (AFP) — Team officials will be allowed to throw plastic bags full of water onto the pitch so their players can drink at any time during World Cup games.

That is FIFA's solution to a problem raised by a local FIFA guy in Orlando and he has confirmed it. It is encouraging, at least, that they have at last taken notice of the concern we've been expressing.

"I also believe referees have had a strong word about it, having suffered the effects of the heat themselves. I noticed the guy in charge of the Norway-Mexico game in Washington Sunday actually stopped the game twice so people could have a drink.

Charlton's request for American football-style time-outs for drinks to avoid dehydration has been rejected. Charlton acted after seeing his striker Tommy Coyne become violently ill after Saturday's win over Italy.

## Ireland moves into 2nd place in World Cup poll

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Ireland jumped from eighth to second place behind Brazil in the Sprint soccer poll following its 1-0 upset of Italy in the opening round of the World Cup, poll organizers said Tuesday.

The poll is a weekly ranking of the top 10 national teams as voted on by an international panel of soccer journalists.

Brazil, which topped Russia 2-0, received 25 of a possible 47 first-place votes, and totalled 360 points. Ireland had 22 first-place votes and 326 points.

The Netherlands, which edged Saudi Arabia 2-1, re-

tained the third spot with 295 points. Nigeria, which beat Bulgaria 3-0 Tuesday, was fourth with 258 points, just a point ahead of Argentina, which Tuesday defeated Greece 4-0. Italy was sixth with 247 points. Germany fell to seventh with 223 points after an unimpressive 1-0 victory over Bolivia in the first game of the tournament.

Belgium held the eighth spot with 206 points, followed by Cameroon in ninth with 140. Romania, which upset Colombia 3-1, was 10th with 111 points, while Colombia fell out of the top 10 for the first time this year.

It's true the atmosphere is not the same around us, even if we have received a marvelous welcome from the public. But we know how to enjoy ourselves, he added.

Orman-Biyik, set to win his 63rd cap at Stanford Stadium Friday in their Group B match, had little doubt Cameroon would score goals.

## Cameroon seeking 'shock of the century'

SAN FRANCISCO, California (AFP) — Cameroon, past masters at World Cup upsets, are aiming for the ultimate in giant-killing when they meet three-times champions Brazil here Friday.

"To beat Brazil would be the shock of the century, but we think we can do it," said striker Francois Omam-Biyik, who shot to fame when his 65th-minute goal downed Argentina in the Italian finals four years ago.

Midfielder Cyrille Makana switched from the right to the left wing and floated in a cross to the penalty spot. Omam-Biyik scored above the defence and headed down past goalkeeper Nery Pumpido.

From then on, the life of the Lenn striker changed as people recognised him in the street and wanted his autograph.

The 28-year-old former Olympique Marseille and Canon Yaounde player admitted the atmosphere in the United States does not match their Italy campaign when they reached the quarter-finals.

"It's one of the top matches of my career so far," said Shelton, 28. "Nothing seemed to bother me from

## Klinsmann saves Germany

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — In another stunning upset at Wimbledon, 120th-seeded Bryan Shelton routed No. 23 seed and 1991 champion Michael Stich 6-3, 6-3, 6-4 Wednesday.

Stich joined fellow German Steffi Graf, the women's top seed and defending champion, as a first-round loser to an unseeded American. Graf's loss to Lori McNeil Tuesday was the first time a defending women's champion lost in the first round, and Stich became only the second men's No. 2 seed to lose that early.

But No. 1 men's seed, defending champion Pete Sampras, preserved some sense of order with a brisk 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 second-round victory over fellow American Rickey Reneberg.

Shelton, who had to win three qualifying matches to make the field, had never gotten past the third round of any Grand Slam and never before beat a player in the top five. But he totally outplayed Stich, who let his frustrations show and was beaten by boos when he exited court two.

It's one of the top matches of my career so far," said Shelton, 28. "Nothing seemed to bother me from

the beginning to the end."

Stich, though ranked No. 2 in the world after Pete Sampras, has struggled badly in recent Grand Slams. He lost in the first round of the 1993 U.S. open and in the Australian Open this year, and was ousted in the second round of the recent French Open.

"I didn't play bad," Stich said. "he was just too good today... He could have closed his eyes and hit it wherever he wanted."

In other matches Wednesday, 20-year-old Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the No. 15 seed, outlasted Dutchman Laurence Telenman in the completion of a marathon suspended match, 7-5, 6-7 (7-5), 6-7 (7-5), 10-8. Another Russian, Andrei Olhovskiy, beat 16th seed Arnaud Boetsch of France, 6-2, 6-3, 7-5.

France's Guy Forget, who missed the fast five Grand Slams because of injuries, beat Dong Flach, 6-1, 6-2. But another veteran Frenchman, crowd-favourite Henri Leconte, with bad problems five games into the fifth set of a battle with Spain's Alex Corretja.

In women's second-round matches, third-seeded Conchita Martinez beat Japan's

Nana Miyagi, 6-1, 7-6 (7-3), and No. 6 seed Kimiko Date crushed Britain's Shirle Ann Siddall, 6-2, 6-0.

No. 9 Lindsay Davenport, just back from her high school graduation in California, beat South African Tessa Price, 6-4, 6-2, and 12th-seeded Zina Garrison Jackson beat Katarina Stenika of Slovakia, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4).

But No. 12 seed Anke Huber joined the ranks of German upset victims, falling to Ines Gorrochategui of Argentina, 6-3, 6-4.

Gabriela Sabatini, the No. 10 seed, salvaged a 2-6, 6-4, 6-1 first-round victory over Austria's Judith Wiesner. And Helena Sukova, designated the 17th seed after the withdrawal of No. 7 May Pierce, beat American Tami Whitlinger, 6-7 (9-7), 6-2, 6-6.

Davenport, a solid grass-court player, is one of several women suddenly seen as contenders for the title following Graf's historic defeat by McNeil.

With Graf gone, either Martina Navratilova, in her farewell appearance at 37, somehow wins her 10th Wimbledon crown, or the Graf-Navratilova lock on the title ends after 12 years, and a brand-new champion emerges.



A young couple uses the rain delay to turn their attention towards more personal matters during the match between Patrick Rafter of Australia and compatriot Jamie Morgan Tuesday at the Wimbledon tennis championships. Rain has already caused several delays in play. (AFP photo)

## Investigators lock into allegations of preferential treatment for Tyson

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Investigators from the Indiana Department of Corrections have asked to check into allegations that several agency officials accepted payment for preferential treatment for boxer Mike Tyson.

DOC commissioner Chris DeBruyn said he involved the agency's internal affairs division because of comments made two weeks ago by James Bell Yager, a well-known jailhouse lawyer and inmate advocate, the Indianapolis News reported Tuesday.

Yager told the News that at least three high-ranking

DOC officials were on Tyson's "prison payroll."

Details of the alleged payments are expected to be disclosed soon in a tabloid newspaper that was not identified.

The publication reportedly paid Yager \$125,000 for information about the alleged payments.

As part of the deal, Yager provided 219 pages from his "Tyson daily diary," and audio tapes containing secretly recorded conversations that he claims will embarrass the DOC. One of the exchanges is allegedly between a key prison administrator and box-

er Mike Tyson.

DeBruyn said he no reason to believe that any DOC official has acted improperly.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Omani women can enter parliament

MUSCAT (AP) — For the first time in the conservative Gulf Arab region, women have gained the right to become members of parliament and to be involved in the process of selecting its members, officials announced Wednesday. The Majlis Al Shura is a traditional consultative council. It has no formal powers, but is consulted by the ruler, Sultan Qaboos, on new laws and public policy. Until now, it has 59 members but the new one to be chosen this year will have 60. Muscat's deputy governor, Bar'ash Bin Saeed Al Saeed, told a press conference that only women from the capital district of Muscat, which has 11 seats, can become members or elect members. Mr. Saeed said allowing women a greater role in the process was designed to help the Majlis to "contribute with a bigger and more effective role in turning the wheel of development in the country. In the Omani system, only a few thousand community leaders nationwide are involved in the election of Majlis members. They gather in conclaves at the provincial level to vote for nominees, and the winners' names are forwarded to Sultan Qaboos, who determines the final composition of the body.

## Sudan gets tough on alcohol drinkers

KHARTOUM (R) — Police have mounted a campaign to eradicate the brewing and drinking of home-made liquor in Sudan's Khartoum state under the slogan "a year without alcohol," a local newspaper reported Wednesday. The crackdown will be pursued for a year in the capital and the state's three provinces, the government-owned Al Ingaz Al Watani newspaper said. Sharia Islamic law, which has been in force in Sudan since 1991, prohibits the making and drinking of alcohol. Offenders are often caned, imprisoned or fined. Many of them are from the one million refugees who fled fighting between government troops and rebels in the south of the country and have settled on the outskirts of Khartoum.

## U.N. to supply Iran with contraceptives

NICOSIA (R) — A U.N. agency has approved a \$10 million plan to supply Iran with contraceptives and help in other population projects, Iran's IRNA news agency said on Wednesday. Under the five-year programme running to 1998, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) would complement the Iranian government's projects to reduce Iran's population growth, IRNA quoted a U.N. statement issued in Tehran as saying. About half of the sum is earmarked for family planning and better health care for mothers and children. "UNFPA would also assist in meeting Iran's contraceptive requirements," IRNA said. Birth control programme adopted by Iran over the past five years despite opposition by some traditionalist Muslim clerics have substantially reduced population growth.

## Iranian dies in police custody in Japan

TOKYO (AFP) — A 31-year-old Iranian man has died in police custody shortly after being arrested in a swoop on suspected illegal immigrants, Japanese press reports said Wednesday. They said Mehrpoor Arjang was picked up as part of an operation by some 200 police which arrested 48 Iranians Monday night in Tokyo's Ueno Park, a gathering place for illegal immigrants from Iran. Police said Arjang had deliberately banged his head shortly after arrest. Arjang reportedly said he was suffering from a headache shortly after and was taken to hospital, where officials said an X-ray revealed no injury. He was returned to the police station where his condition deteriorated around dawn Tuesday, the police said, and was taken back to hospital, where he died about one hour later. The Iranian had intentionally slammed his head against the seat of the mini-bus that was taking him to jail, the police said adding that an autopsy has been ordered.

## Algerian prime minister seeks aid

PARIS (AFP) — Algerian Prime minister Mokdad Sifi arrived here on Wednesday seeking economic support from the former colonial power France for his country torn by a war with Islamic fundamentalists. Sifi, on his first visit abroad since he was appointed last April 11, was accompanied by Finance Minister Ahmed Benboula and other senior officials. He was to meet President Francois Mitterrand later Wednesday and Foreign Minister Alain Juppe on Thursday. France was instrumental three weeks ago in arranging the rescheduling of Algeria's \$26 billion foreign debts, and considers that economic support is vital to prevent the country from sliding further into chaos. Paris will tell Mr. Sifi his military-backed government must engage in dialogue with all parties that reject terrorism, including Islamic moderates, French officials said.

## Growing threat from hi-tech Jew-haters'

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Anti-Semitic groups are exploiting state of the art communications to pose a growing international threat, according to a report previewed Wednesday by Tel Aviv University. "Utilising the latest communications techniques, racist groups in Western Europe achieved high levels of cooperation in... finance, training, legal advice, translation and distribution of hate literature, and the organisation of demonstrations and international congresses," the report found. "These groups have adopted the most modern communications methods such as electronic mail networks, video games and direct mail. There is also exploitation of computer software technology by creating diskette containing detailed instructions for preparing bombs." Dima Porat, director of the study, said: "We view with great concern the international links of extremist groups, calling on law enforcement agencies to act against the spread of hatred across borders."



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday hands the sword of honour to a graduate officer from Muta University

## Regent urges army graduates to uphold spirit of Arab revolt

MUTA (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday urged graduates from the military wing of Muta University to follow on the footsteps of the forebears of the standards of the Great Arab Revolt.

"As you now join the military institution you will be bearing the honour and the duties of those who had served this country before and defended its soil since the outbreak of the Great Arab Revolt and during the various conflicts in which Jordan offered sacrifices in defence of the homeland," the Regent said.

He urged them to remain steadfast behind their leadership and back the King's endeavours in bolstering national unity and defending the national soil.

Referring to the situation in the Middle East, Crown Prince Hassan said that the whole region was now going through rapid and varied changes and witnessing crucial events and developments.

"It is our duty to adopt a clear position and to be able to contribute to shaping our future lives in a manner that would be in conformity with

"You are expected to be loyal to your homeland and to following your predecessors in upholding our principles stand," Prince Hassan told the graduates.

"These developments require us to be vigilant and strong enough to confront the challenges ahead and to deal with them objectively, wisely and with a clear vision," he said.

"Our position should be clear to the world at large and to those around us" and we should be ready for the various transformations that will eventually lead to what is being called the new world order, the Prince pointed out.

The Regent said that our domestic front should be united and informed of the developments on the international scene so that the nation's potentials and capabilities can be fused together and to confront the domestic as well as the external challenges.

our principles and national interests," Prince Hassan added.

Our position should be based on a concept of clear vision and scientific knowledge and not on the basis of wishful thinking nor should we merely accept what is being decided for us by the others, the Regent said.

The Regent said that our domestic front should be united and informed of the developments on the international scene so that the nation's potentials and capabilities can be fused together and to confront the domestic as well as the external challenges.

It should be emphasised that the basic challenge facing the country at the moment is the will to change, a decision that should be taken by the people and their leadership together at the appropriate moment.

He said that the desired change was needed by Jordan to enable it to move on towards safeguarding the country's national interests.

At the end of the ceremony, which was attended by acting Prime Minister Thonon Hindawi and other officials and high ranking army officers, the Regent distributed diplomas and prizes to the graduates.

## Hizbullah attacks Israel in S. Lebanon

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (AFP) — Hizbullah fighters attacked an Israeli patrol with rockets, machine guns and mortars overnight in south Lebanon but caused no casualties, a pro-Israeli radio reported on Wednesday.

More than 30 Hizbullah guerrillas died in a raid on June 2.

"Hizbullah is of course trying to react and we will do our best to prevent attacks knowing that the struggle will

go on," Gen. Barak said. Israeli warplanes blasted Hizbullah positions Monday and Tuesday and guerrillas fired back Katyusha rockets.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin sought Tuesday to play down the fighting a day after an Israeli soldier died and four others were wounded.

A Lebanese woman has been killed and four other civilians wounded in the recent violence.

## Yeltsin-Clinton summit set

BRUSSELS (R) — Russia and the United States announced on Wednesday that President Boris Yeltsin has accepted U.S. President Bill Clinton's invitation to a summit in the United States in September.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced the agreement after talks in Brussels, following Russia's signature of NATO's "partnership for peace" scheme.

U.S. officials said that while the summit was agreed for September, no specific date had been set.

"We are very pleased that President Yeltsin accepted President Clinton's invitation to visit the United States in September," Mr. Christopher told a news conference with Mr. Kozyrev.

The group, including former Socialist Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, also urged the 32-nation Council of Europe, the commission's parent organisation, to suspend Turkey's membership until it changed policy towards the Kurdish people.

The Kurdish members of parliament have been detained on treason charges that carry a maximum death penalty since last March, when the Turkish national assembly lifted their immunity, a decision upheld by the country's constitutional court.

The lawyers said their detention violated four articles

of the European convention on human rights, protecting members of parliament from politically-motivated arrest and imprisonment, upholding freedom of speech and barring discrimination on grounds of race or language.

The commission must first decide whether the complaint is admissible before it can be heard by the European Court of Human Rights.

Mr. Dumas told reporters the Council of Europe's parliamentary assembly, which passed a resolution on April 13 calling for the deputies' release, would examine a motion calling for Turkey's suspension next Monday.

"This is an urgent matter, the facts of the case are serious and justify immediate action... I would be surprised and disappointed if they did not take up a problem so basic as the Kurdish problem, which is a sort of cancer in Europe's midst," Mr. Dumas said.

## Lawyers ask Council of Europe to suspend Turkey

STRASBOURG, France (R)

— Fourteen European lawyers, including two former French ministers, appealed to the European Commission on Human Rights on Wednesday to protect six Kurdish members of parliament imprisoned in Turkey.

The group, including former Socialist Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, also urged the 32-nation Council of Europe, the commission's parent organisation, to suspend Turkey's membership until it changed policy towards the Kurdish people.

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## King: President Assad and I understand each other very well

(Continued from page 5)

KING HUSSEIN: We have not been in touch since — (inaudible)

Q: Your Majesty, is there a better world understanding of Jordan's position during the Gulf war than before, and how does that help in enhancing Jordan's relations with the world?

KING HUSSEIN: I believe here there is a better understanding, yes, of Jordan's position during the Gulf war, and the rest of the world. That is also a fact and I hope that our position will be understood for what it really was and what it really has been — throughout that very dark moment and it will always be. We have our own positions that we adopt for the sake of what we believe is in the best interest of all and our concerns for the region were real and I think that they have been justified. We tried to prevent... we tried to reverse occupation peacefully... (inaudible). Unfortunately the problem is with some brethren who still believe that we knew that Kuwait was going to be attacked — that we were a party to a plan allegedly to create interruption in that area and this is totally false and I wish to God that somebody will be able to come out and talk to us about it in any detail. We know where we are, we know where we were. So, somehow this problem is going to be addressed. It has not been so far, we have not been able to deal with it satisfactorily and it would be in the interest of all to come out and to find exactly what happened. Who was responsible for — (inaudible) — such an idea... to avoid falling into such pitfalls in the future. We have done everything in our sake. We have indicated time and again that any step towards us will be met by two — (inaudible) — but beyond that we can't do more, so we have to wait and see in time I hope things will move in that direction.

KING HUSSEIN: With Israel, not within the Arab League?

KING HUSSEIN: (Inaudible)

Q: (Inaudible, laughter)

KING HUSSEIN: Your Majesty, since the announcement was made of the rapprochement between you and Israel last week, have you been in contact with any of the Gulf Arab countries, particularly Saudi Arabia, and shall we hope for a warming of relationships between these two countries?

KING HUSSEIN: Have their been any contacts

with Egypt, also regarding progress as far as peace is concerned with Israel? Any contacts with Cairo?

KING HUSSEIN: No contacts.

KING HUSSEIN: In the sense of what contacts?

Q: I mean to appraise them of what's happening, just as President Assad does, and the Palestinians do, you know, in that sense.

KING HUSSEIN: This happens normally.

Q: That happens normally... (inaudible)

KING HUSSEIN: That happens normally, but have I talked with President Mubarak in the last...

Q: Or any prime minister...

KING HUSSEIN: This hasn't happened. I have talked to him a while ago — (inaudible).

TRUDY RUBIN: Your Majesty, you said you meet — as you said, you meet frequently with President Assad, and you said, if I understood you correctly, that you understand each other's position. Does that mean that you meet with Prime Minister Rabin in the course of negotiations, when you thought the time was right, that you would assume that President Assad would understand that and there would not be any worsening of relations between...

KING HUSSEIN: I don't think that there is any reason for the worsening of relations. There is reason for improvement of the relations, I hope that will still be a fact. I haven't heard from President Assad — (inaudible). So whatever has been said — (inaudible).

Q: Your Majesty, can you describe the state of the Jordanian economy?

KING HUSSEIN: It's passing through a difficult phase. I think we have done a lot in the recent past, but we are carrying a very, very heavy burden, and I hope somehow that all the

efforts will result in some improvement in terms of the Jordanian economy in the future, through opportunities that will enable us to move ahead so that we bring about a change in the quality of life of our people and meet their demands and needs and expectations regarding the future.

Q: What would a peace do? What will it...

KING HUSSEIN: It would enhance these possibilities, but obviously we're passing through a moment where we hope that we get support from a number of friends — (inaudible).

AMAL MUDALLALI: Your Majesty, there were reports will visit Jerusalem even before the final status... that the negotiations are over if you sign a treaty with Israel?

KING HUSSEIN: I think that there is a lot of speculation regard. Obviously my hope as a Hashemite, as a Muslim, as an Arab, as a Jordanian to — (inaudible). When it is possible for me and others in the context of peace — the Holy places are sacred to all of us and respected by all of us — sovereignty is that of the Almighty God and all of it. I hope I will be able to visit Jerusalem.

Q: May I ask, with Syria and Lebanon, did you exchange any information on the agreement with Israel? What is...

KING HUSSEIN: (Inaudible) — I'll tell you one thing, we have never so far, as I am concerned, up to this moment, been able to sit together with any of our Arab brethren and discuss everything in detail. They have their own problems and we own problems that we deal with. But in terms of a direction for peace, this is something that is — (inaudible). There is a determination to achieve it and I hope we will see progress and...

## COLUMN 8

### British MP targets France in war of words

LONDON (R) — The French have a word for it but if a British politician gets his way it will be crime to use it. Order an "aperitif" in a British bar and you could face an on-the-spot fine. Demand an "encore" at the end of an opera and you might be in trouble with the law. In a tongue-in-cheek response to French proposals to curb the creeping use of English, Conservative lawmaker Anthony Steen said he would introduce a bill in parliament next month to ban the use of French words in public English. "They say that this makes their language impure," he declared. "Well, I am determined to show how stupid they are by going a stage further and banning all use of French words written or oral in this country." His measure, the French Words (prohibition) Bill, comes before the House of Commons in July and is unlikely to go much further. A controversial bill designed to keep foreign words out of the French language has stirred controversy in France over the past months. The measure would ban the use of foreign words in work contracts, public announcements, advertising and on radio and television, where a suitable French equivalent exists.

### George Michael 'slavery' plea against Sony falls

LONDON (Agencies) — British pop star George Michael lost his court battle to scrap his contract with record label Sony, but vowed to appeal to end the "professional slavery" he said music companies inflicted on their artists. The singer, in a dark suit, designer stubble and sunglasses, sat impassively on the front bench as Judge Jonathan Parker told a packed High Court that he was satisfied the contract was "reasonable and fair" and that Sony had behaved properly. The ruling leaves over Michael's future as he has vowed never to record for Sony again. Michael has been consoled by the Princess of Wales throughout his unsuccessful eight-month legal battle with Sony, the Daily Mirror said Wednesday.

Patient was awake during hip surgery

SYDNEY (AFP) — Everybody's worst nightmare came true for Ivars Parums as he woke up — paralysed — under the surgeon's scalpel on the operating table of an Australian hospital. He tried to speak, but could not, as the scalpel sliced his flesh at the start of his replacement operation, Mr. Parums told AFP Wednesday. Although an epidural injection spared him the pain, he was panicking as he realised the general anaesthetic had failed and felt the surgeon's power-saw carve through bone while he was unable to move a muscle or make a sound. A flaw in the connection of an anaesthetic gas vapouriser is being blamed for the incident.

He was stuck more than two hours in the operating room, with his legs tied to the table, and was unable to move his arms or speak. "It was like being buried alive," he said.</